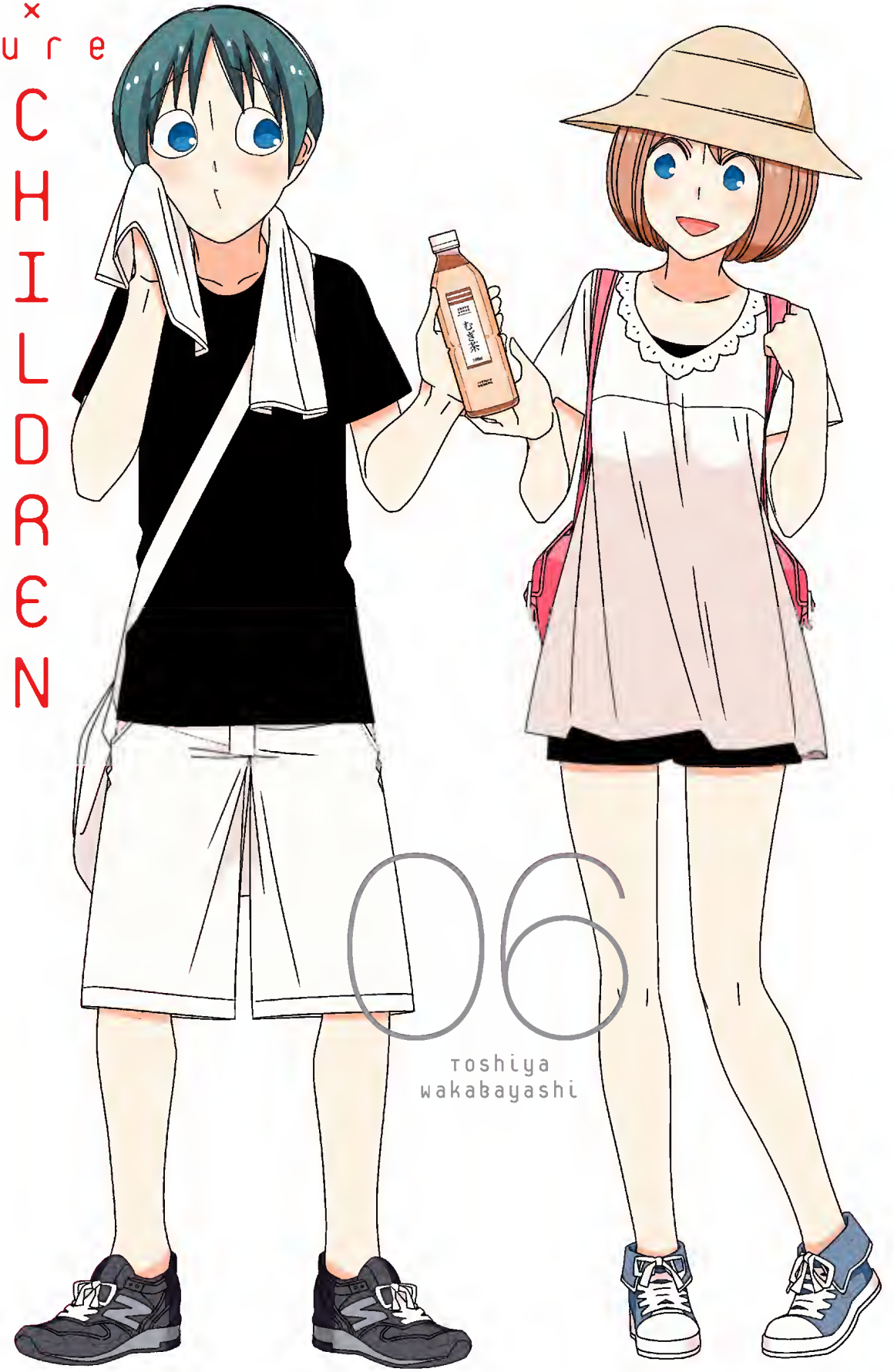
Tsure × Dure

CHILDREN



06

Toshiya Wakabayashi

Tsure × Dure CHILDREN 06

Toshiya Wakabayashi

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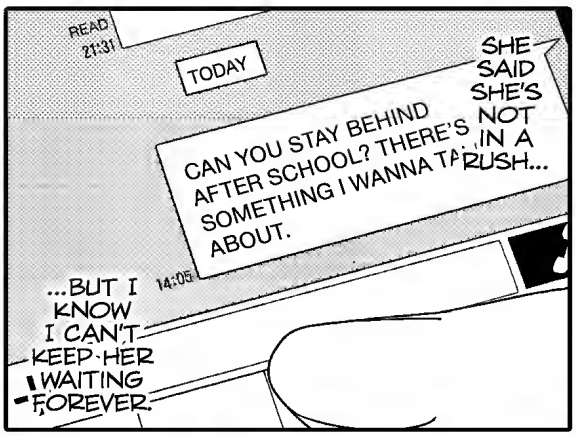
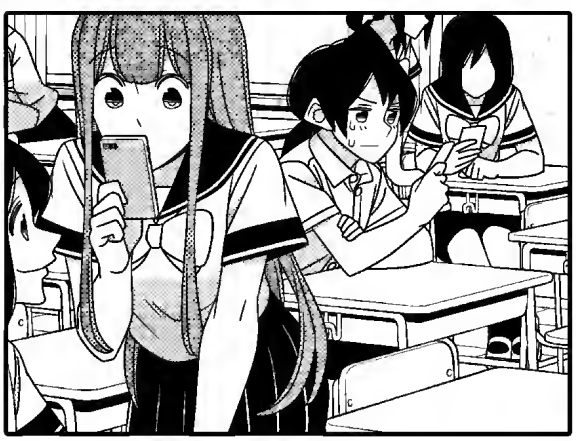
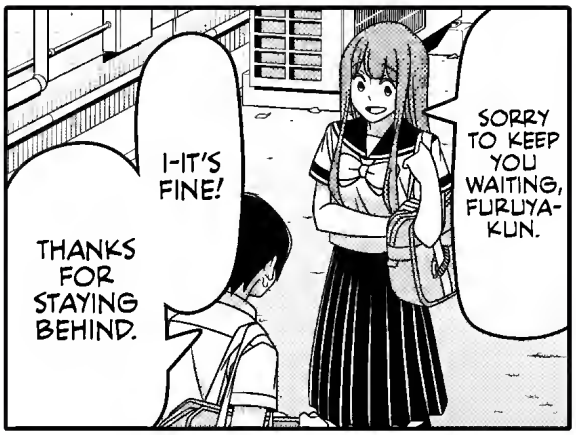
IT'S BEEN MONTHS...
...SINCE MY CLASSMATE, MINAGAWA-SAN, CONFESSED TO ME...
...BUT I STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN HER A REPLY.


READ 21:31
TODAY
CAN YOU STAY BEHIND AFTER SCHOOL? THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA TALK ABOUT.
14:05
SHE SAID SHE'S NOT IN A RUSH...
...BUT I KNOW I CAN'T KEEP HER WAITING FOREVER.

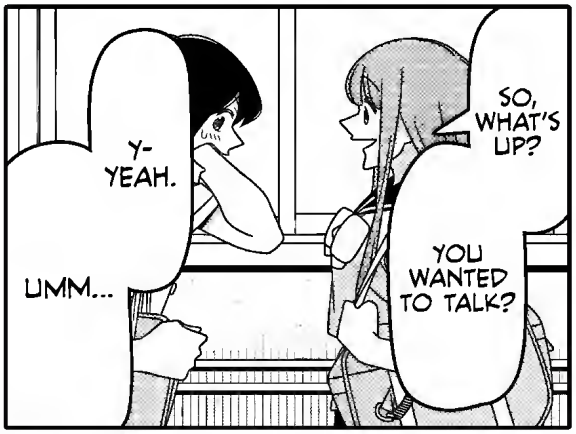
TODAY'S THE DAY...
...I'LL GIVE HER A REPLY.



W-WELL,
THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU OUT HERE.
UHH... WHAT-EVER...
HERE WE GO.

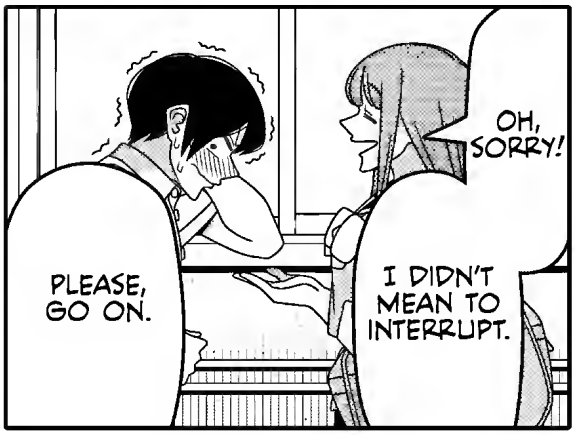

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, FURUYA-KUN.
I-IT'S FINE!
THANKS FOR STAYING BEHIND.

I...
...LIKE YOU, TOO, MINAGAWA-SAN.
WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?

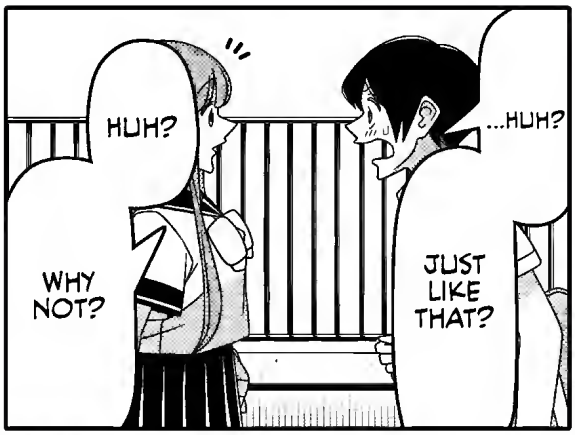

SO, WHAT'S UP?
Y-YEAH.
YOU WANTED TO TALK?
UMM...

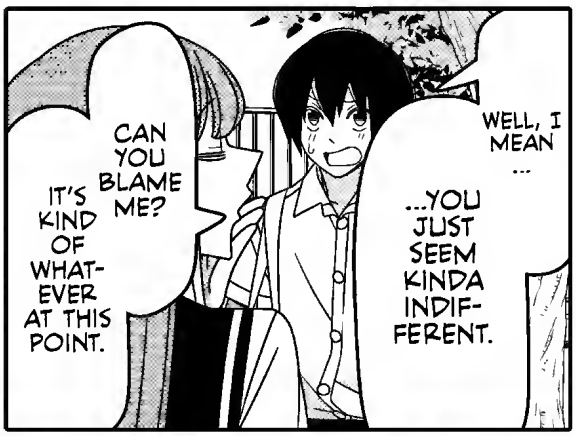
YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME AN ANSWER, RIGHT?

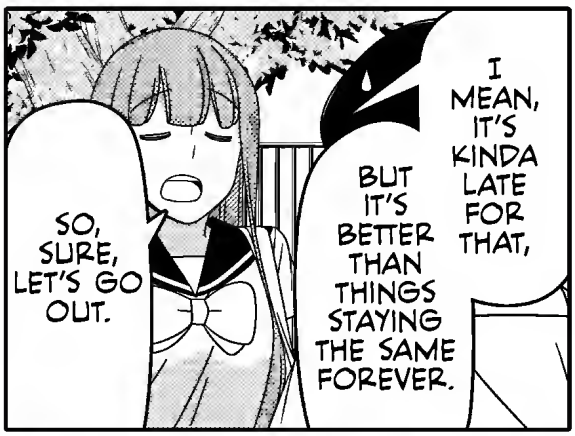
SURE.


OH, SORRY!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT.
PLEASE, GO ON.

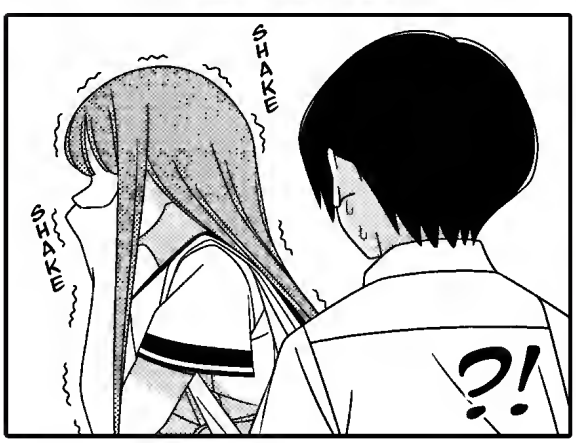
MINA-GAWA-SAN,
ARE YOU MAD THAT I MADE YOU WAIT?
NOT REALLY, WHY?


...HUH?
JUST LIKE THAT?
HUH?
WHY NOT?


WELL, I MEAN ...
...YOU JUST SEEM KINDA INDIF-FERENT.
CAN YOU BLAME ME?
IT'S KIND OF WHAT-EVER AT THIS POINT.


I MEAN, IT'S KINDA LATE FOR THAT,
BUT IT'S BETTER THAN THINGS STAYING THE SAME FOREVER.
SO, SURE, LET'S GO OUT.

TRUE, IT DID TAKE ME WAY TOO LONG.
AND ALL I CAN BLAME IS MY OWN LACK OF COURAGE.
BUT, TO BE HONEST; I THOUGHT SHE'D BE A LITTLE HAPP-


SHAKE
SHAKE
?!

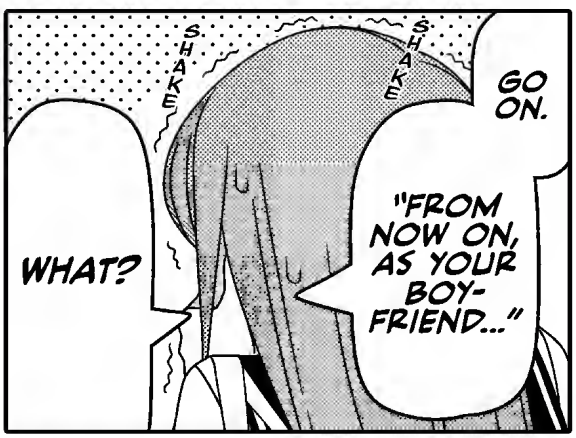
HUUUUUUUU
UUUUUUUH?

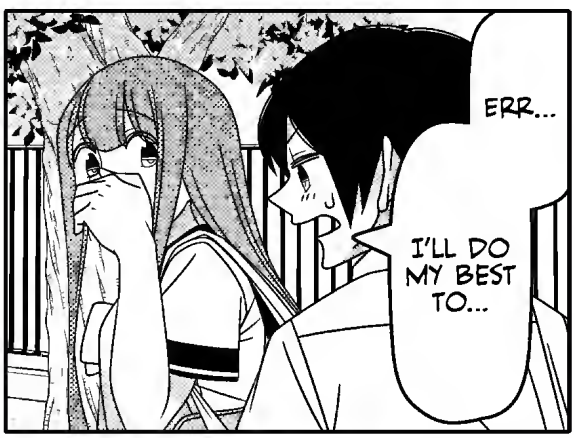
WHY ARE YOU HIDING YOUR FACE?
NO REA-SON.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

...MI-
MINA-GAWA-SAN?
SHAKE SHAKE
YEAH?

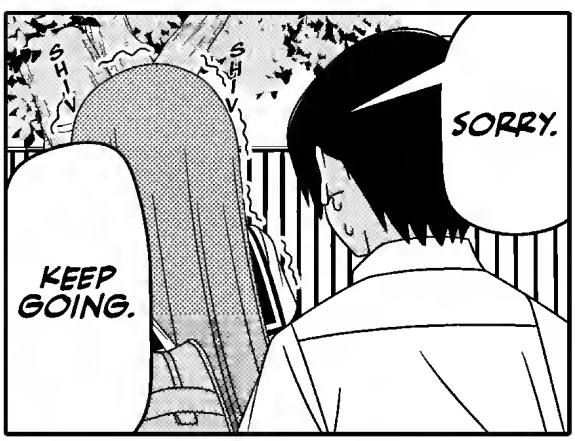
BY ANY CHANCE,
HAVE YOU BEEN...

IS SHE MAD, AFTER ALL?
UM...
FROM NOW ON, AS YOUR BOY-FRIEND...


GO ON.
"FROM NOW ON, AS YOUR BOY-FRIEND..."
SHAKE SHAKE
WHAT?


ERR...
I'LL DO MY BEST TO...

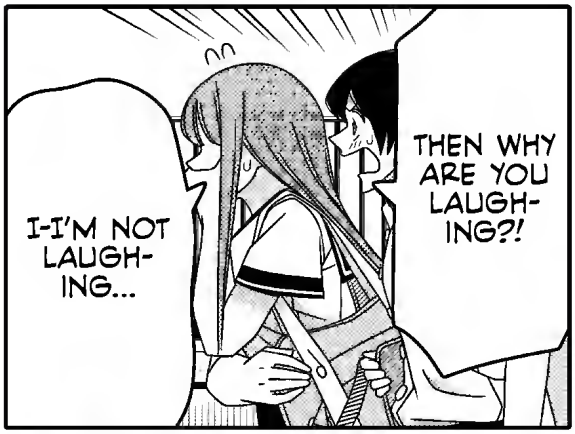
SHE'S TEAS-ING ME AGAIN!


SORRY.
SHIN SHIN
KEEP GOING.

JEEZ!
DON'T LOOK AT ME! IT'S EMBARRASSING!
HUH?! UHH...

COME ON!
LISTEN TO ME SERIOUSLY!
I... I AM!

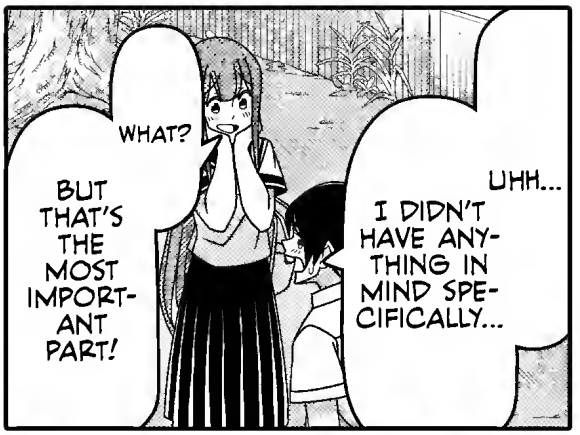
I MEAN, IT TOOK YOU FOREVER TO GIVE ME AN ANSWER...
...SO I THOUGHT I'D JUST FEEL WHATEVER ABOUT IT.

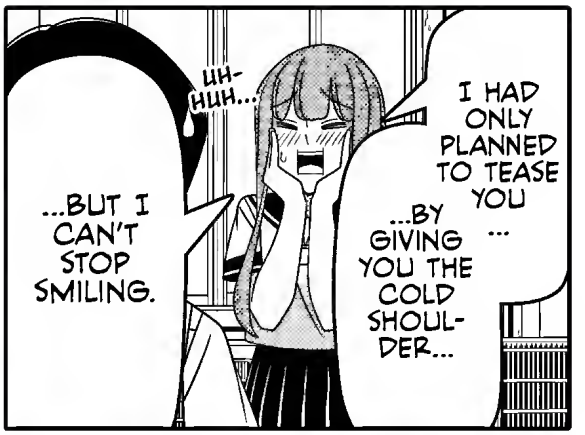

THEN WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING?!
I-I'M NOT LAUGHING...

NOW BUT, THAT YOU'VE ACTUALLY SAID IT...
...I'M GLAD.

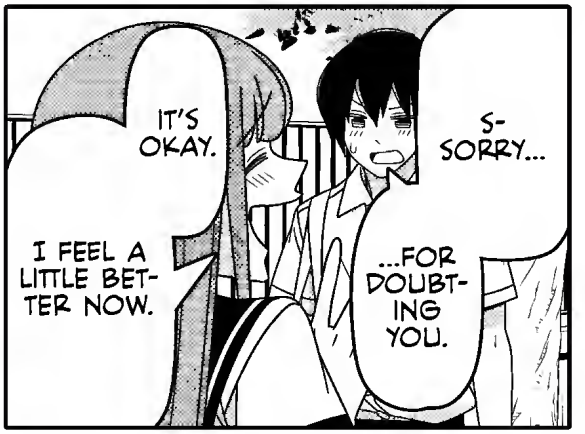
GRAB
THEN LET ME SEE YOUR FACE!

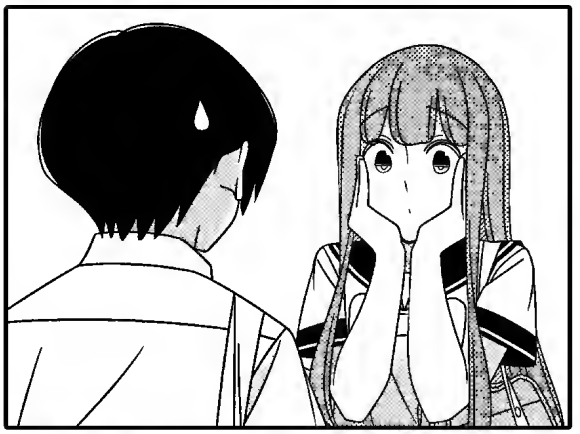
!


UHH...
I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING IN MIND SPECIFICALLY...
WHAT?
BUT THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT PART!


I HAD ONLY PLANNED TO TEASE YOU...
...BY GIVING YOU THE COLD SHOULDER...
UH-HUH...
...BUT I CAN'T STOP SMILING.

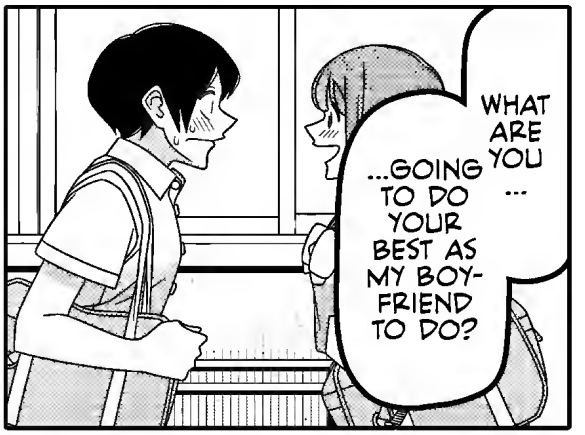
I'LL DO MY BEST...
...TO MAKE YOU SMILE, MINAGAWA-SAN.


S-SORRY...
IT'S OKAY.
...FOR DOUBTING YOU.
I FEEL A LITTLE BETTER NOW.



NOW, YOU WERE SAYING?
HUH? WHAT...?

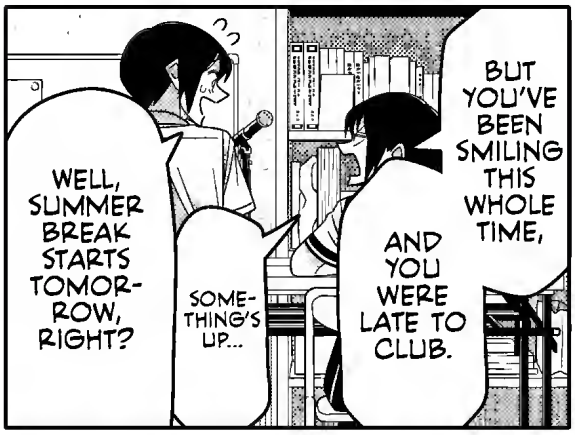
AAH! I CAN'T DO IT!
ANYTHING YOU SAY RIGHT NOW WILL MAKE ME GRIN!
WAS IT REALLY THAT TOUCHING?
MEH!
END


WHAT ARE YOU...
...GOING TO DO YOUR BEST AS MY BOYFRIEND TO DO?

T S U r e × D U r e

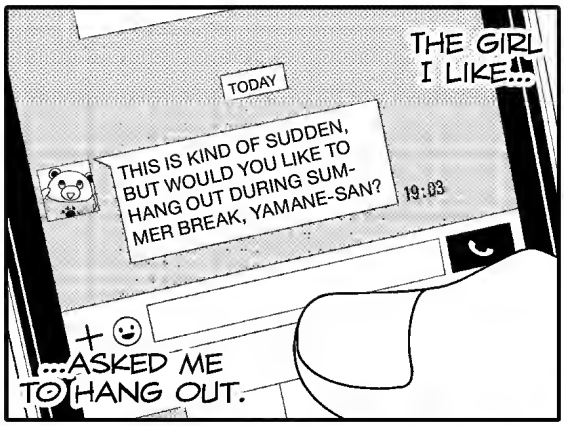
C H I L D R € N

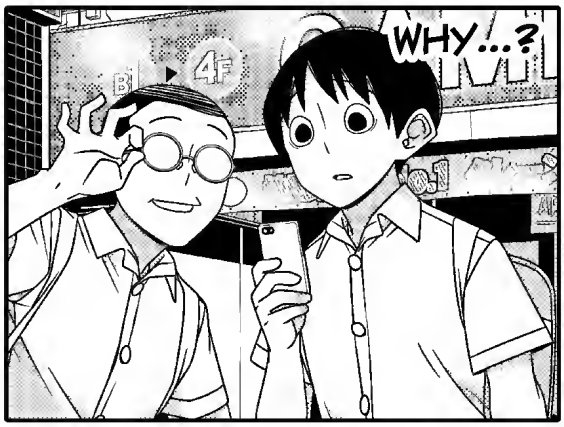
ONII-CHAN,
DID SOME-THING HAP-PEN?
HUH?
N-NO, NOT REALLY.

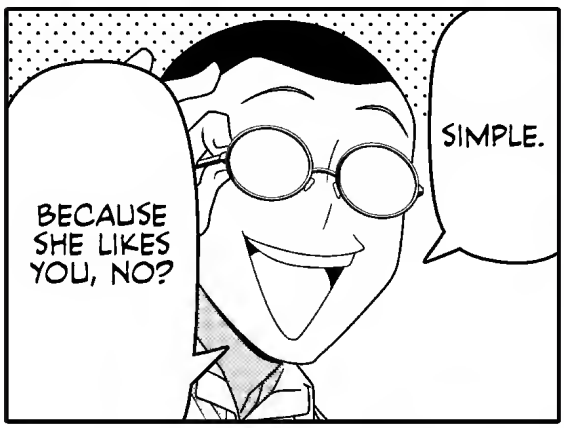

BUT YOU'VE BEEN SMILING THIS WHOLE TIME,
AND YOU WERE LATE TO CLUB.
SOME-THING'S UP...
WELL, SUMMER BREAK STARTS TOMOR-ROW, RIGHT?

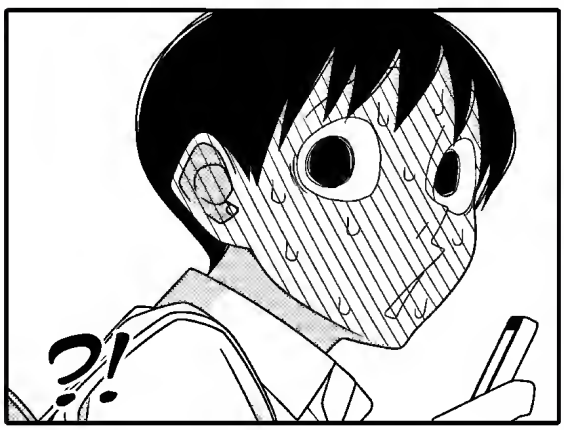
OH!
THAT'S RIGHT!

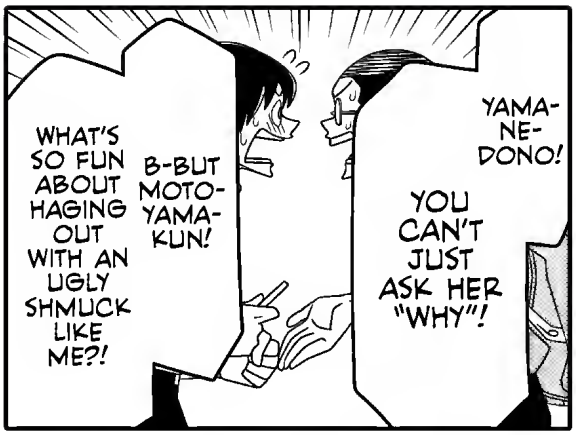
Is It Okay If I'm Popular?

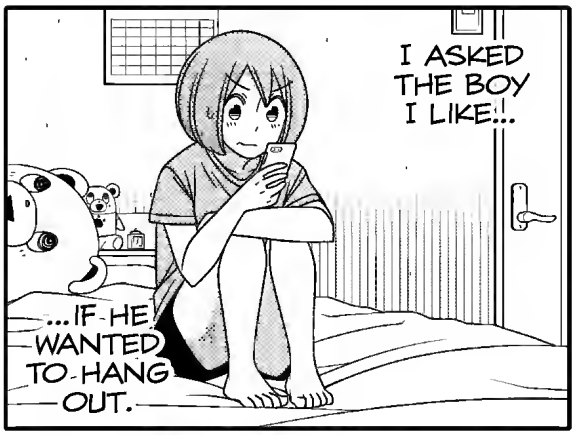


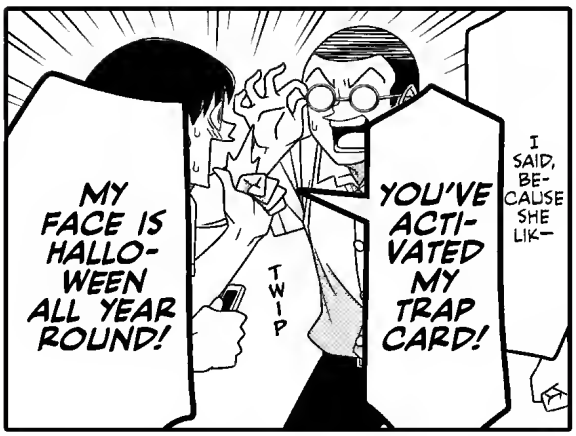


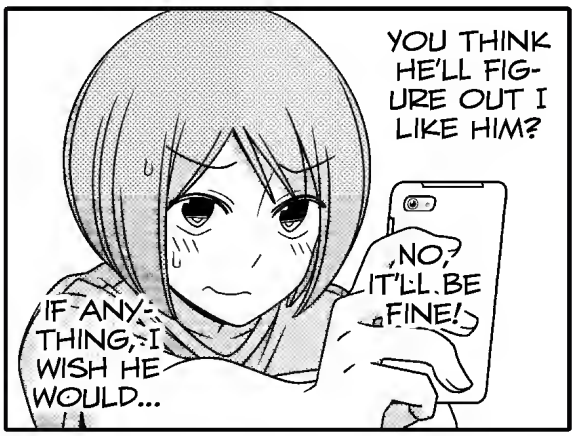


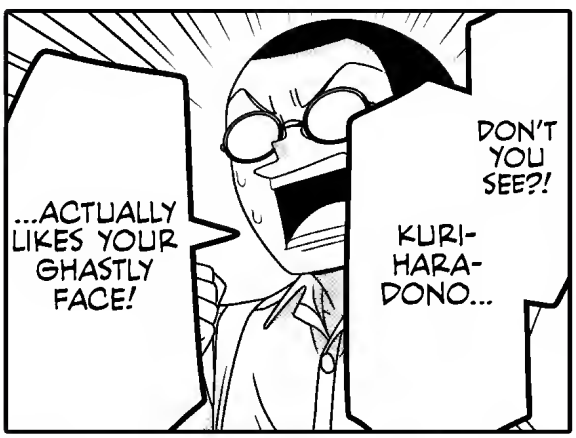


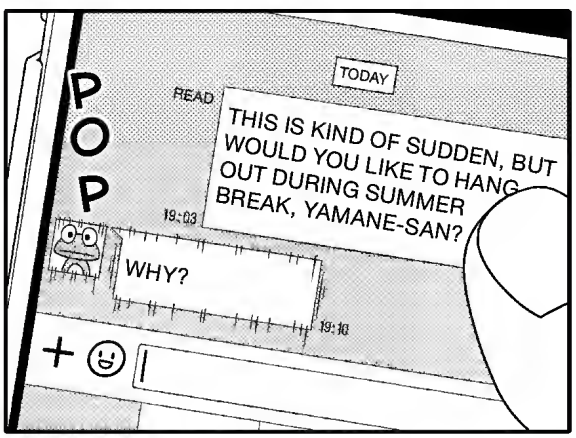

YAMA-NE-DONO!
YOU CAN'T JUST ASK HER "WHY"!
B-BUT MOTO-YAMA-KUN!
WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT HAGING OUT WITH AN UGLY SHMUCK LIKE ME?!


I ASKED THE BOY I LIKE...
...IF HE WANTED TO HANG OUT.

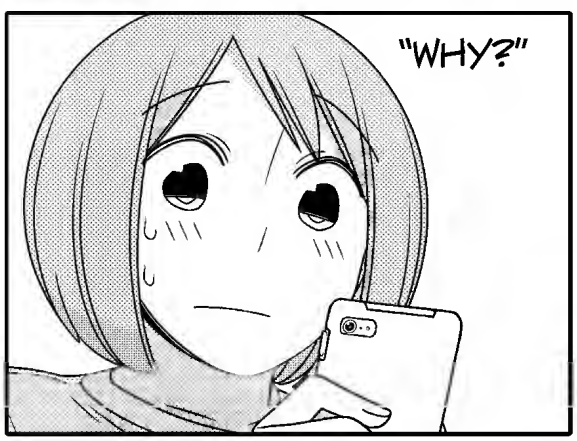

I SAID, BE-CAUSE SHE LIK—
YOU'VE ACTI-VATED MY TRAP CARD!
TWIP
MY FACE IS HALLO-WEEN ALL YEAR ROUND!


YOU THINK HE'LL FIG-URE OUT I LIKE HIM?
NO, IT'LL BE FINE!
IF ANY-THING, I WISH HE WOULD...

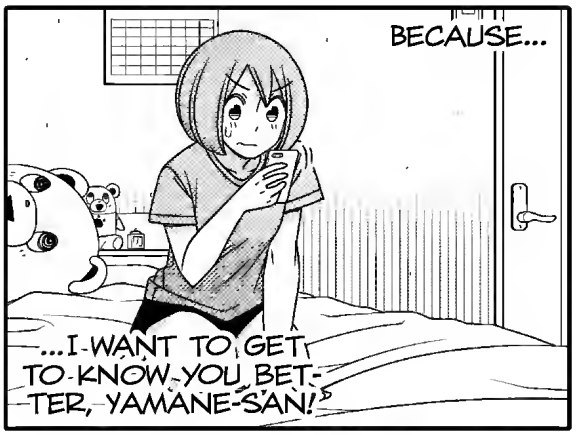

DON'T YOU SEE?!
KURI-HARA-DONO...
...ACTUALLY LIKES YOUR GHASTLY FACE!

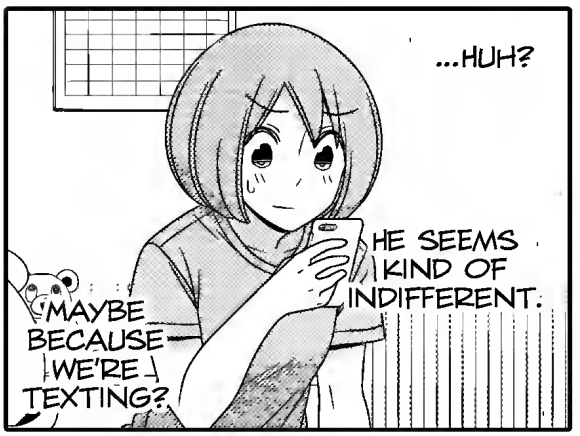

POP
TODAY
READ
THIS IS KIND OF SUDDEN, BUT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HANG OUT DURING SUMMER BREAK, YAMANE-SAN?
19:03
WHY?
19:10

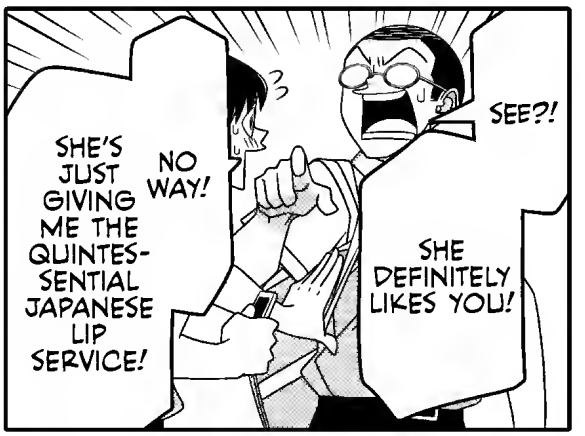
NAH, NAH, NAH, NAH!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

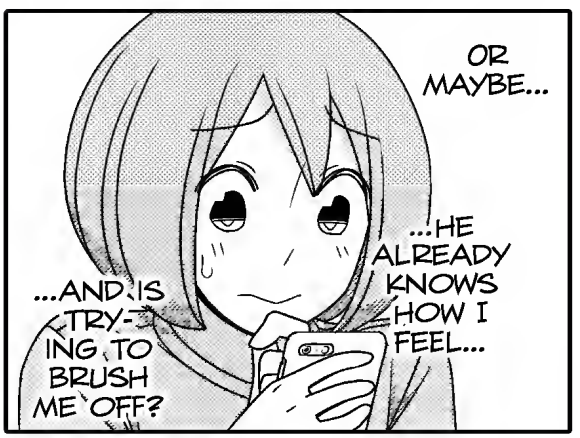

"WHY?"

BECAUSE I WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER, YAMANE-SA
18:15
AS A FRIEND.
18:16
OH, I SEE. WELL, I'M FREE ANYTIME.

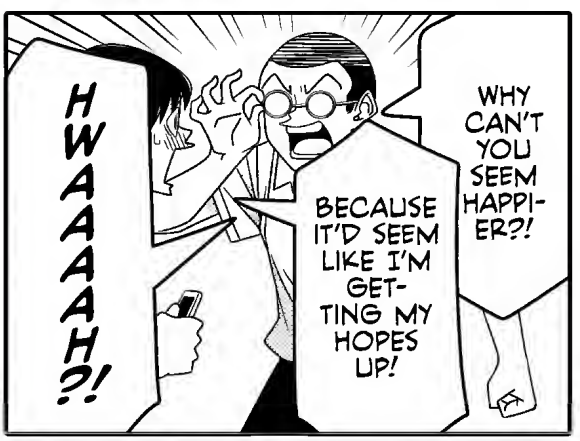

BECAUSE...
...I WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU BET-TER, YAMANE-SAN!

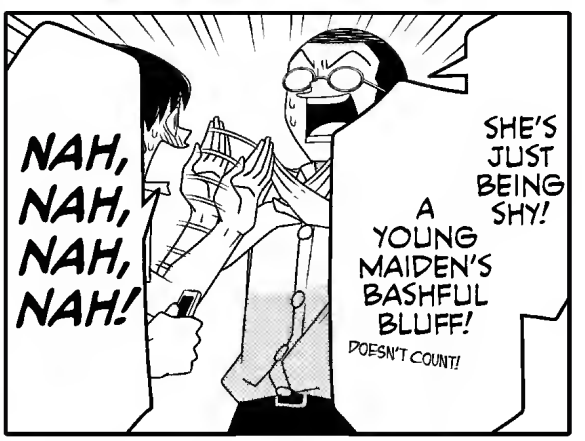

...HUH?
HE SEEMS KIND OF INDIFFERENT.
MAYBE BECAUSE WE'RE TEXTING?


SEE?!
NO WAY!
SHE'S JUST GIVING ME THE QUINTES-SENTIAL JAPANESE LIP SERVICE!
SHE DEFINITELY LIKES YOU!

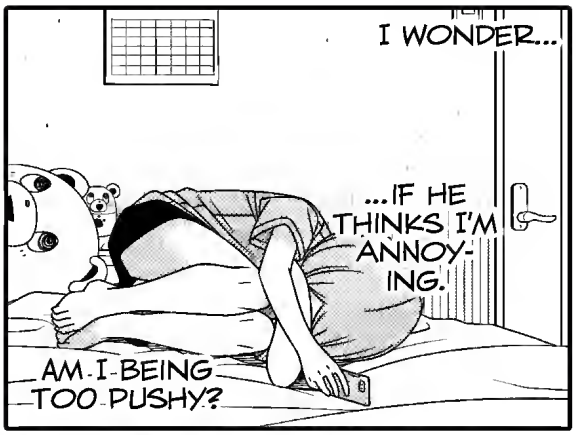

OR MAYBE...
...HE ALREADY KNOWS HOW I FEEL...
...AND IS TRY-ING TO BRUSH ME OFF?

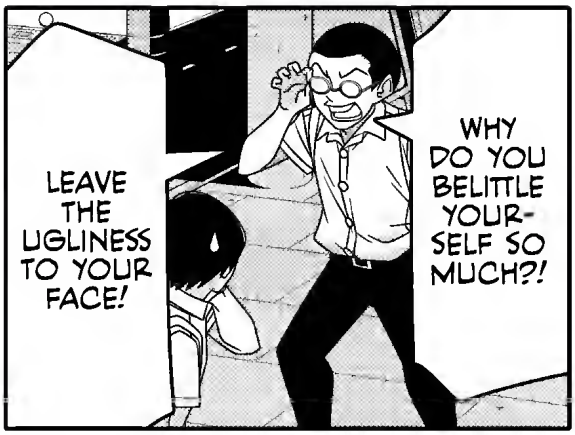
...
AS A FRIEND...

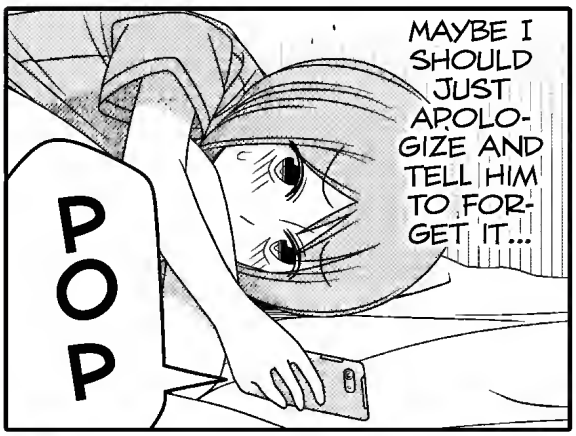

HWAAAAH?!
BECAUSE IT'D SEEM LIKE I'M GET-TING MY HOPES UP!
WHY CAN'T YOU SEEM HAPPI-ER?!

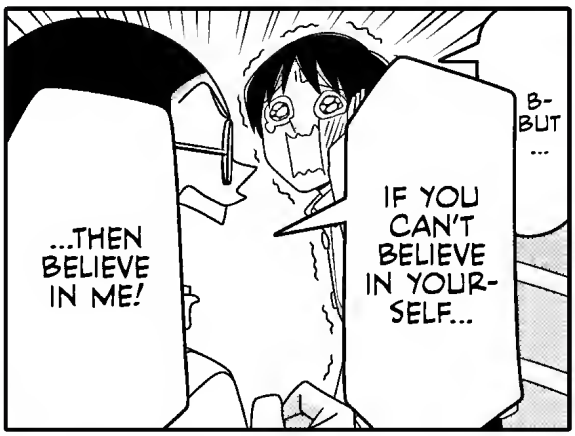

NAH, NAH, NAH, NAH!
SHE'S JUST BEING SHY!
A YOUNG MAIDEN'S BASHFUL BLUFF!
DOESN'T COUNT!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO DENSE?
YOU LIKE HER, TOO, DON'T YOU, YAMANE-DONO?!
I MEAN,
IT HAS CROSSED MY MIND...
...THAT KURI-HARA-SAN...
...MIGHT ACTUALLY LIKE ME.
BUT,
IF I TRY TO CROSS THE LINE AND FAIL...
...WE MIGHT NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO BE FRIENDS ANY-MORE,
AN THAD SCAWS ME!
!
SO, IT'S FINE. I'M HAV-ING FUN THE WAY THINGS ARE.
BE-SIDES, AN UGLY CHUMP LIKE ME...
YAMA-NE-DONO,
YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE CONFI-DENCE...
...ABOUT WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE, NOT JUST THE OUTSIDE.
PAT
BUT I DON'T HAVE MUCH GOING FOR ME....
...ON THE INSIDE, EITHER.
HWAAAH!
WHACK

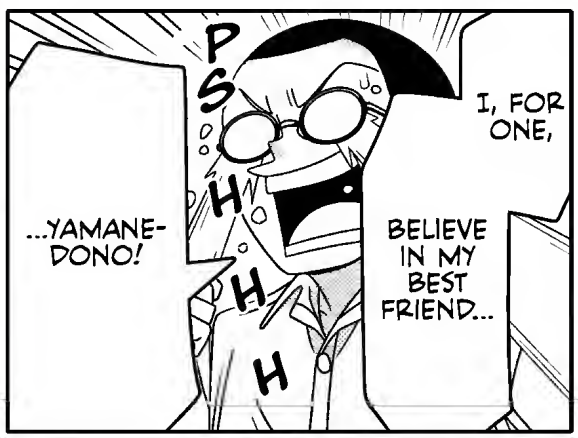

I WONDER...
...IF HE THINKS I'M ANNOY-ING.
AM I BEING TOO PUSHY?

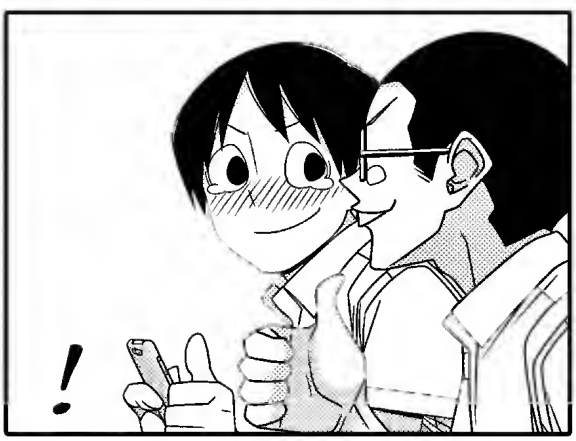

WHY DO YOU BELITTLE YOUR-SELF SO MUCH?!
LEAVE THE UGLINESS TO YOUR FACE!


MAYBE I SHOULD JUST APOLO-GIZE AND TELL HIM TO FOR-GET IT...
POP


B-BUT ...
IF YOU CAN'T BELIEVE IN YOUR-SELF...
...THEN BELIEVE IN ME!

docono
18:29
TAKAO YAMANE
IS THERE ANYWHERE YOU WANNA GO?
18:28
!


I, FOR ONE,
BELIEVE IN MY BEST FRIEND...
PSHH
...YAMANE-DONO!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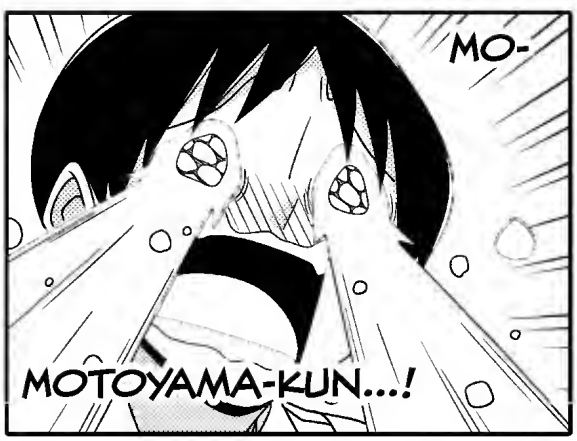
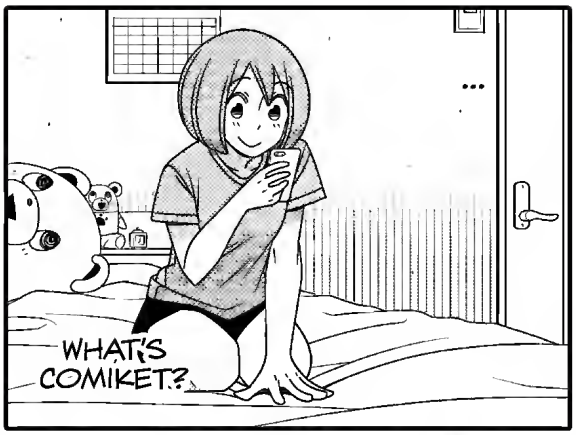
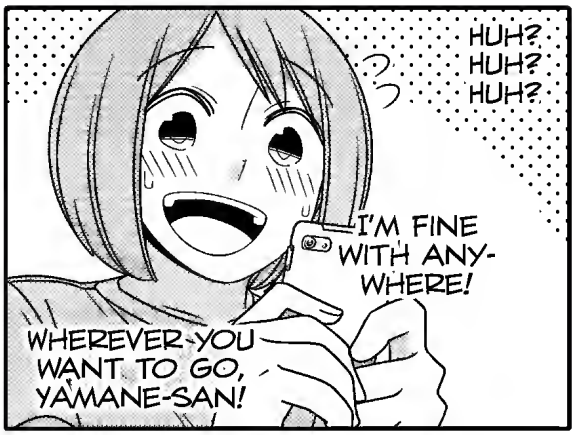
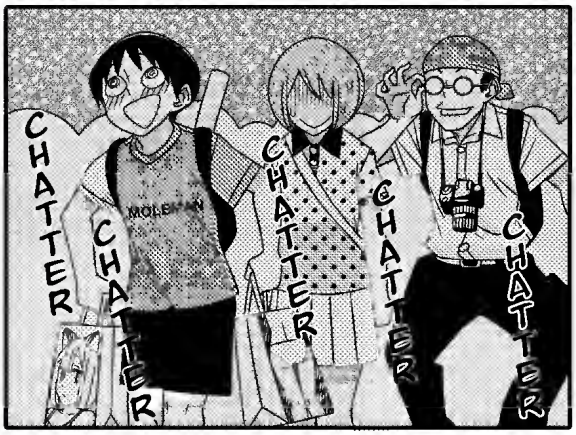

MO-
MOTOYAMA-KUN...!


...
WHAT'S COMIKET?

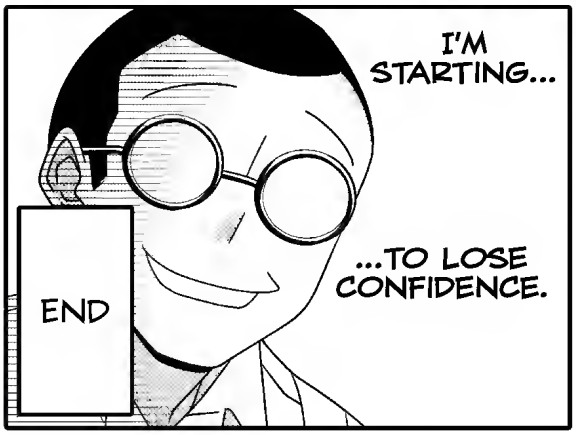

HUH? HUH? HUH?
I'M FINE WITH ANY-WHERE!
WHEREVER YOU WANT TO GO, YAMANE-SAN!

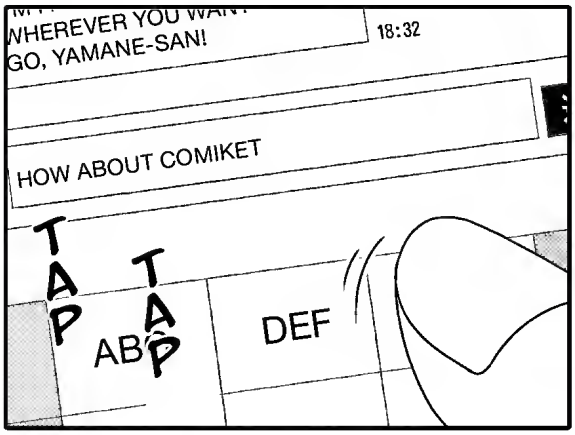
COMI-KET...
...IS A KIND OF ANIME EVENT.
THERE ARE COS-PLAYERS AND...

WHERE SHOULD WE GO?
THAT'S FOR YOU TO DECIDE, YAMANE-DONO.


CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER

I'M SURE KURI-HARA-DONO WILL BE HAPPY...
...WITH ANY-WHERE YOU WANT TO GO.
O-OKAY!

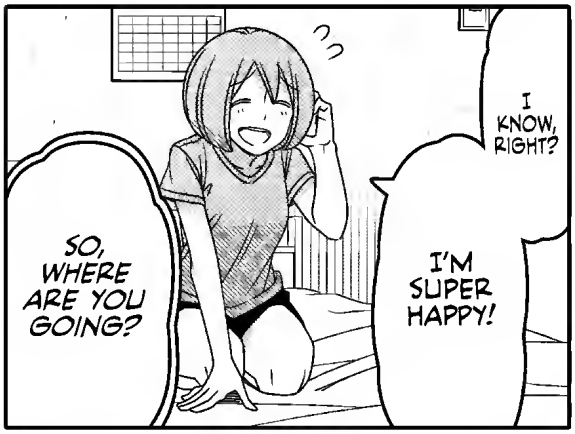

I'M STARTING...
...TO LOSE CONFIDENCE.
END


WHEREVER YOU WAN
GO, YAMANE-SAN!
18:32
HOW ABOUT COMIKET
TAP
TAP
ABC
DEF

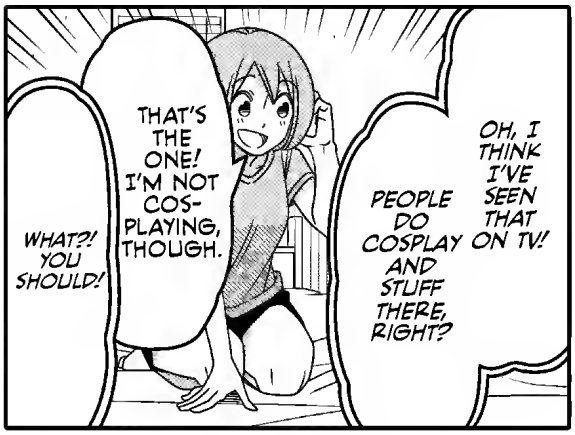
T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N

WHAT?
YOU'RE GOING SOME-WHERE WITH YAMANE-KUN DURING THE BREAK?
THAT'S GREAT!


I KNOW, RIGHT?
I'M SUPER HAPPY!
SO, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

UHH.
SOME-THING CALLED COMIKET.

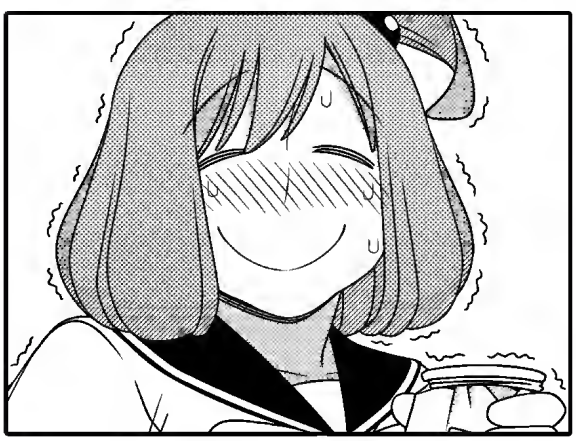

OH, I THINK I'VE SEEN THAT ON TV!
PEOPLE DO COSPLAY AND STUFF THERE, RIGHT?
THAT'S THE ONE! I'M NOT COS-PLAYING, THOUGH.
WHAT?! YOU SHOULD!

Pudding

UGH...
COMPARED TO MY CRUSH...
...I FEEL LIKE...
...I'VE GOTTEN CHUBBIER AGAIN.

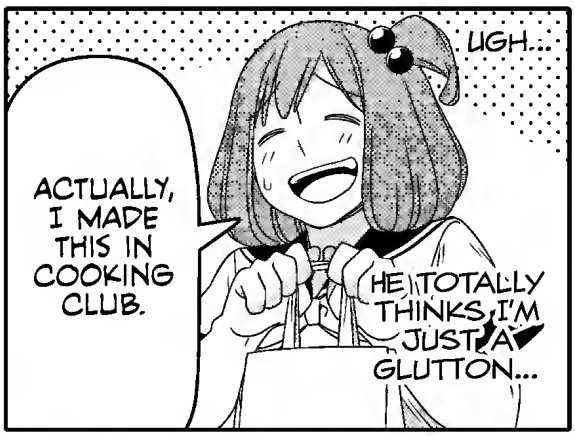
BUT IT JUST SO HAPPENS...
...I MADE HIM MY SPECIAL PUDDING TODAY!
I WANT TO SHOW HIM I'M NOT JUST A FATTY...

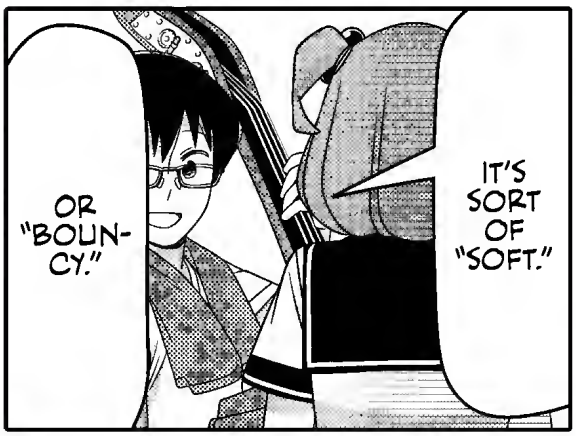
HM? NASHIMOTO-SAN?
SNACK TIME IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?



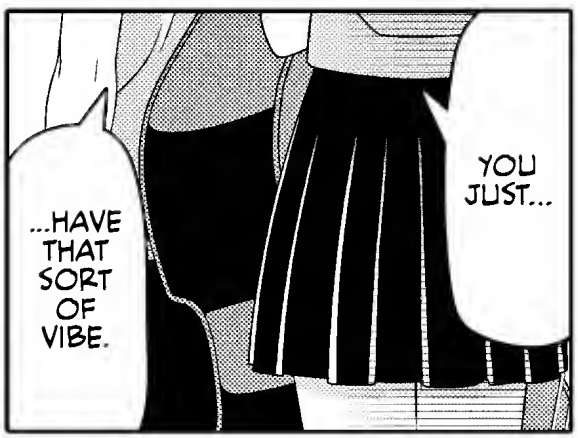
S-SONO-BE-KUN?!
NO! THIS ISN'T FOR ME...
OH, REAL-LY?
YOU JUST LOOKED READY TO DIG IN.

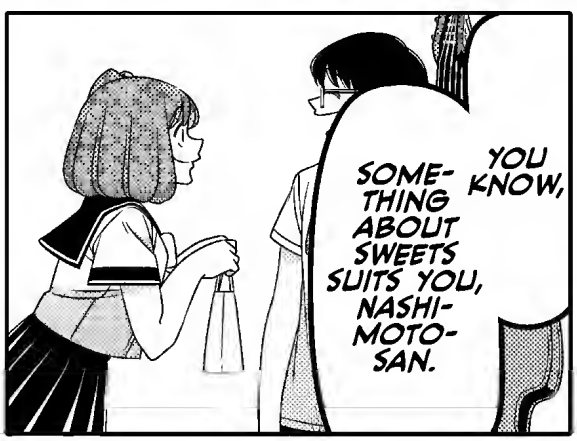
HUUUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HOW DO I PUT IT?
I GUESS IT'S YOUR AURA.

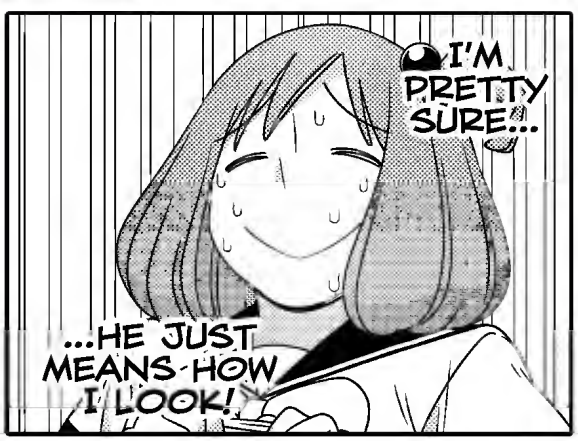

UGH...
HE TOTALLY THINKS I'M JUST A GLUTTON...
ACTUALLY, I MADE THIS IN COOKING CLUB.


IT'S SORT OF "SOFT."
OR "BOUN-CY."

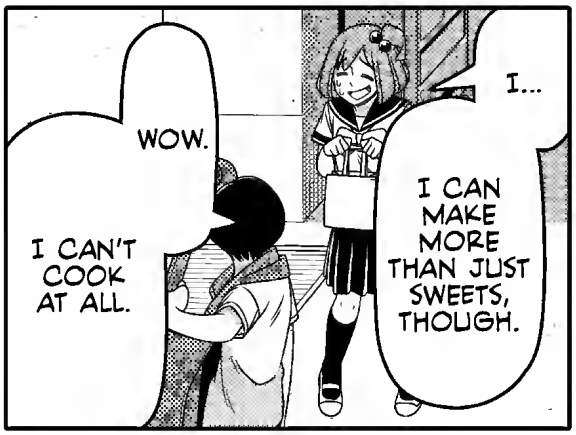
WOW.
YOU CAN MAKE SWEETS? COOL.
HEH... HE, HE, HE...

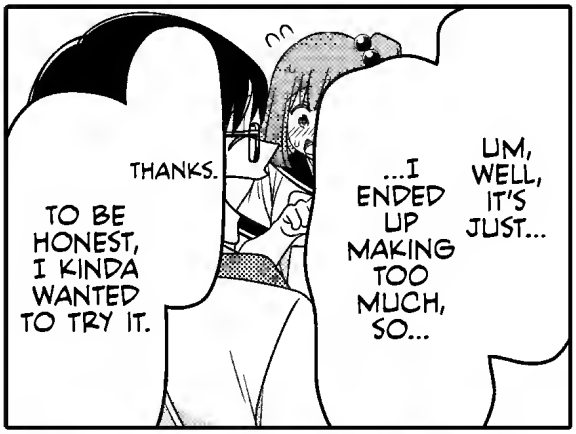

YOU JUST...
...HAVE THAT SORT OF VIBE.

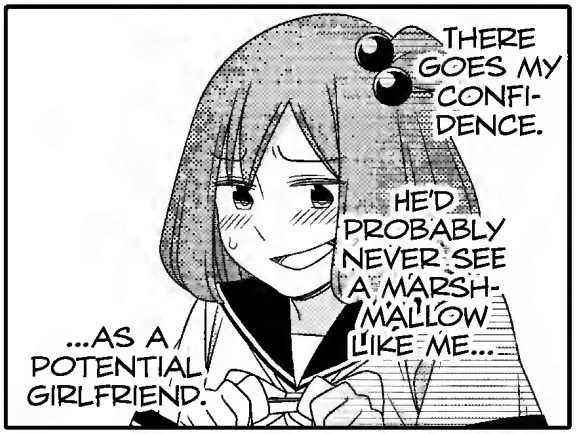

YOU KNOW, SOME-THING ABOUT SWEETS SUITS YOU, NASHI-MOTO-SAN.

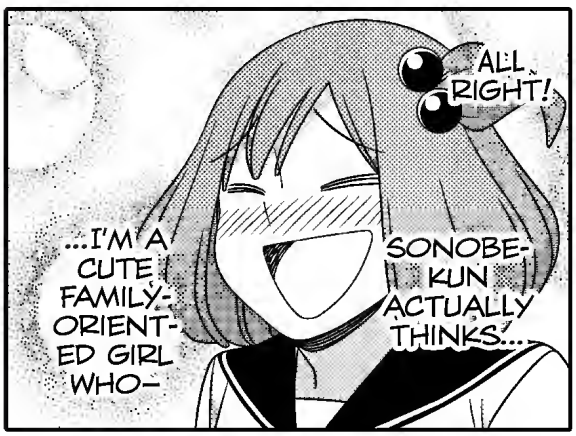

I'M PRETTY SURE...
...HE JUST MEANS HOW I LOOK!

I-IN THAT CASE, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME HAND-MADE PUDDING?
HUH?
IS THAT FOR ME?


I...
I CAN MAKE MORE THAN JUST SWEETS, THOUGH.
WOW.
I CAN'T COOK AT ALL.


UM, WELL, IT'S JUST...
...I ENDED UP MAKING TOO MUCH, SO...
THANKS.
TO BE HONEST, I KINDA WANTED TO TRY IT.

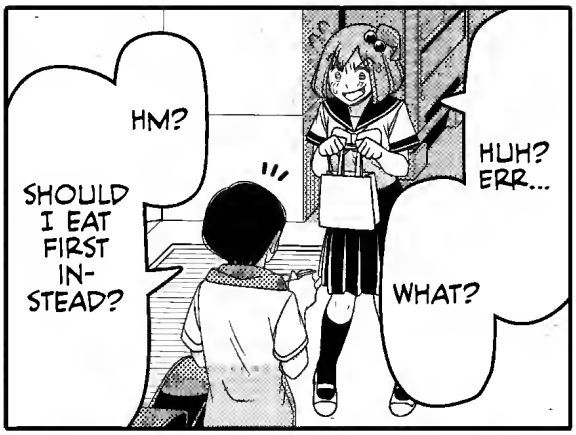

THERE GOES MY CONFI-DENCE.
HE'D PROBABLY NEVER SEE A MARSH-MALLOW LIKE ME...
...AS A POTENTIAL GIRLFRIEND.

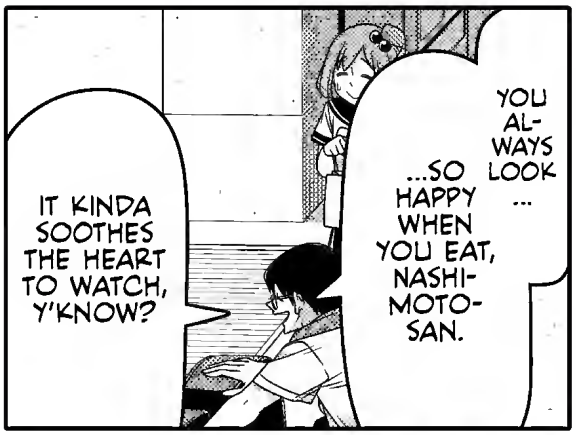

ALL RIGHT!
SONOBE-KUN ACTUALLY THINKS...
...I'M A CUTE FAMILY-ORIENT-ED GIRL WHO–

THERE'S SOME-THING NICE ...
...ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE YOU...
...WHO CAN COOK, NASHI-MOTO-SAN.

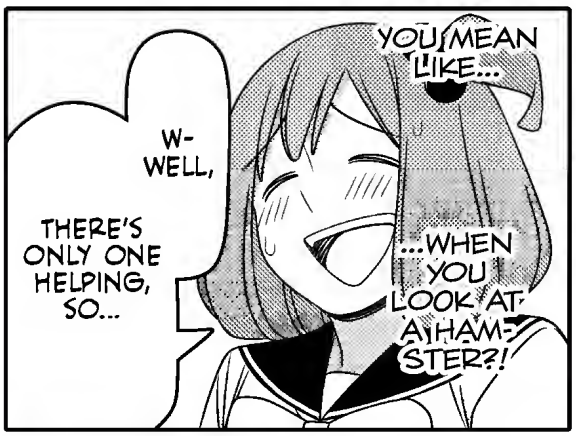
BUT I ALSO WANT...
...TO WATCH YOU EAT, TOO.

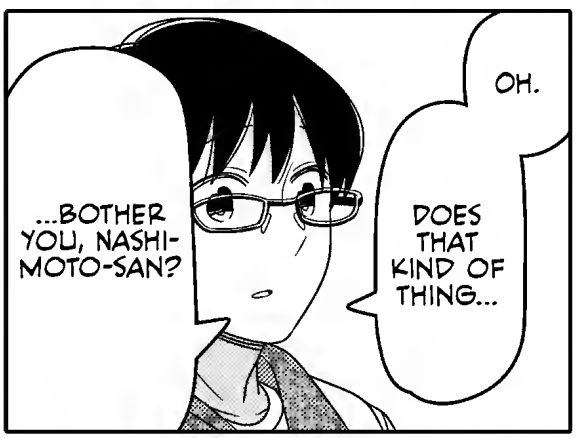
?!


HM?
SHOULD I EAT FIRST IN-STEAD?
HUH? ERR...
WHAT?

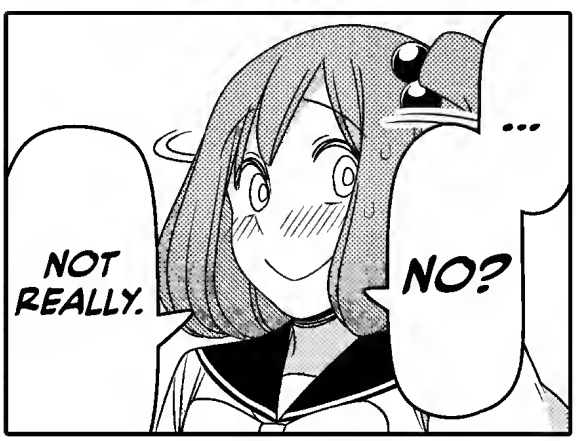

YOU AL-WAYS LOOK ...
...SO HAPPY WHEN YOU EAT, NASHI-MOTO-SAN.
IT KINDA SOOTHES THE HEART TO WATCH, Y'KNOW?

WON'T THAT...
...COUNT AS AN INDIRECT KISS?
NO...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO EATS FIRST.


YOU MEAN LIKE...
W-WELL,
THERE'S ONLY ONE HELPING, SO...
...WHEN YOU LOOK AT A HAMSTER?!


OH.
...BOTHER YOU, NASHI-MOTO-SAN?
DOES THAT KIND OF THING...

B-BUT...
I ONLY BROUGHT ONE SPOON.
LET'S SPLIT IT, THEN.

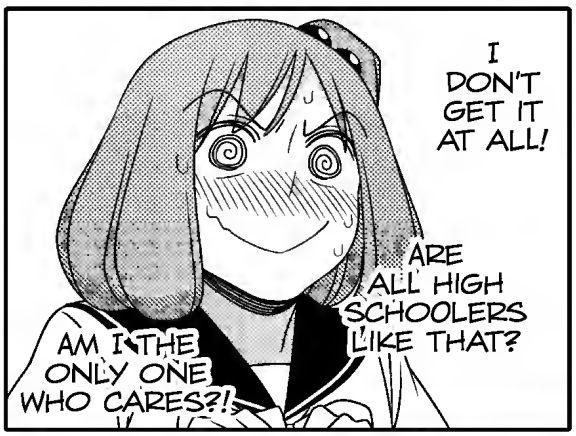

...
NO?
NOT REALLY.

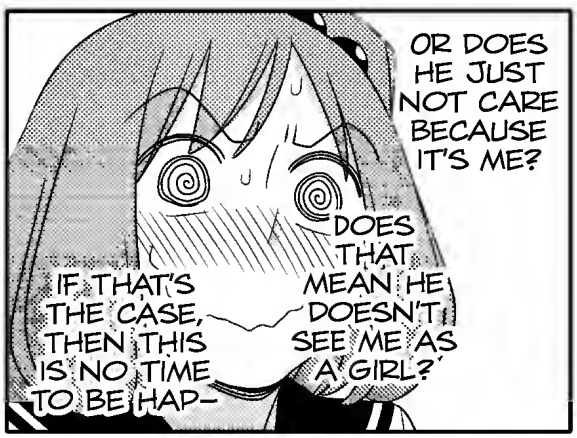
YOU CAN GO FIRST, THEN.

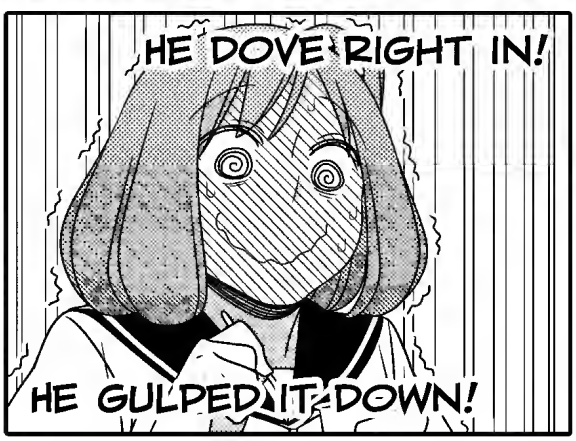
MM! TASTY!
YOU'RE A GOOD COOK, NASHIMOTO-SAN.
NOM NOM

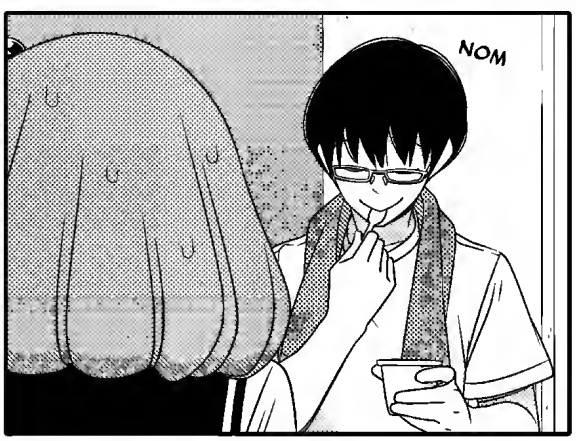
Y-YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
YOU KINDA STOP CARING ABOUT THAT STUFF WHEN YOU HIT HIGH SCHOOL, HUH?
RIGHT?

OKAY,
YOU CAN HAVE THE REST.

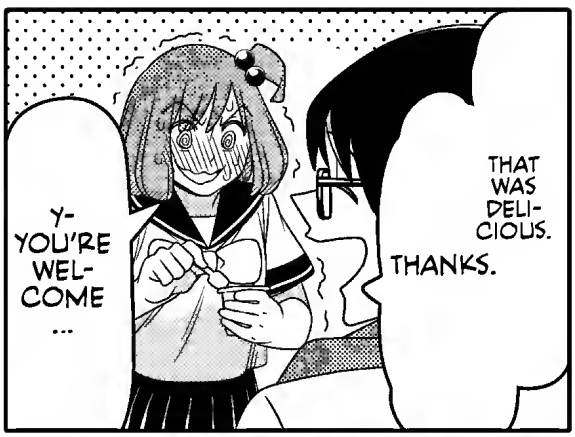

I DON'T GET IT AT ALL!
ARE ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS LIKE THAT?
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO CARES?!

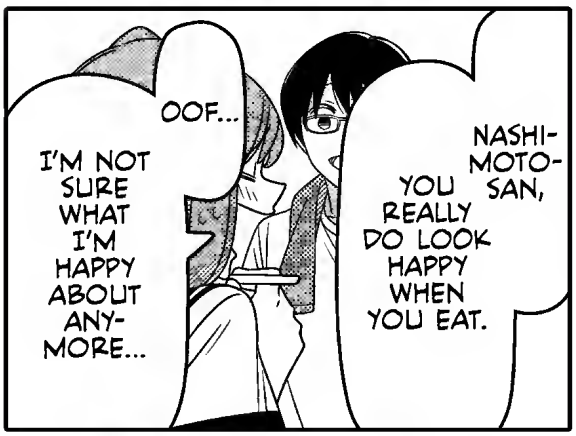

OR DOES HE JUST NOT CARE BECAUSE IT'S ME?
DOES THAT MEAN HE DOESN'T SEE ME AS A GIRL?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THIS IS NO TIME TO BE HAP–

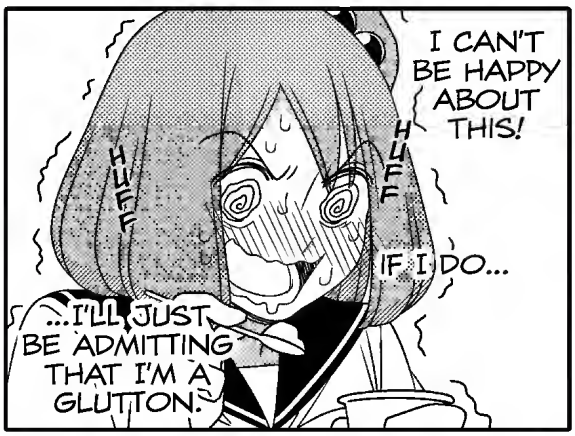

HE DOVE RIGHT IN!
HE GULPED IT DOWN!


NOM

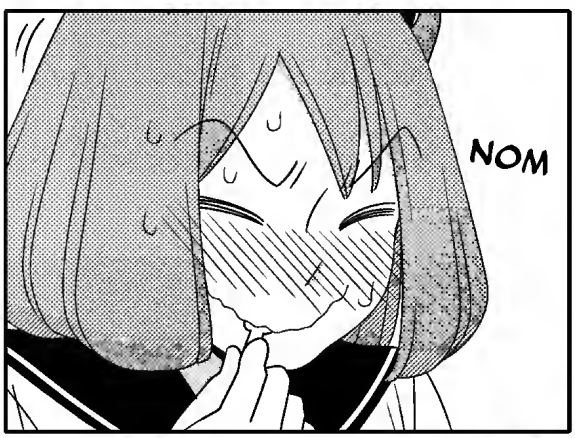
I HATE TO ADMIT IT...
...BUT IT'S SO GOOD!
IT TASTES LIKE SONOBE-KUN!


THAT WAS DELI-CIOUS.
THANKS.
Y-YOU'RE WEL-COME ...

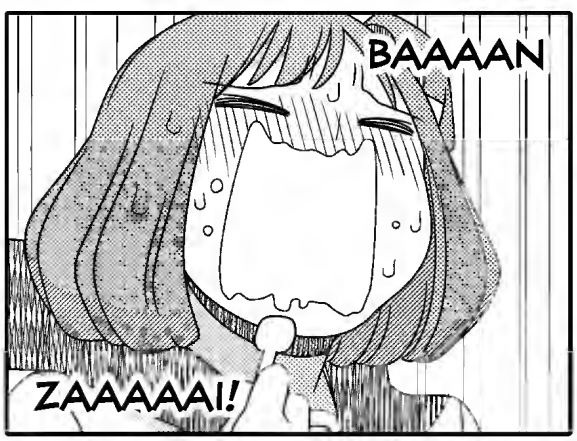

OOF...
I'M NOT SURE WHAT I'M HAPPY ABOUT ANY-MORE...
NASHI-MOTO-SAN, YOU REALLY DO LOOK HAPPY WHEN YOU EAT.


I CAN'T BE HAPPY ABOUT THIS!
HUFF
HUFF
IF I DO...
...I'LL JUST BE ADMITTING THAT I'M A GLUTTON.

I REALLY LIKE...

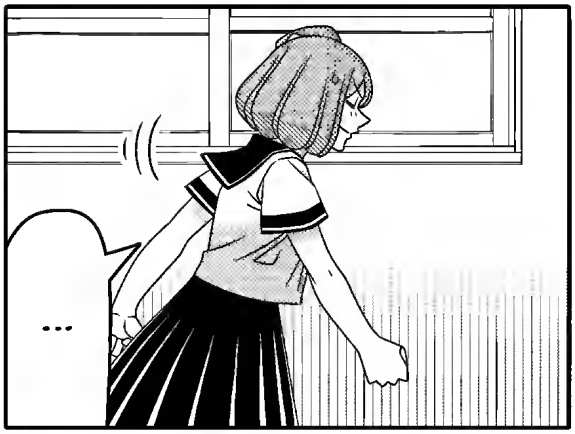

NOM

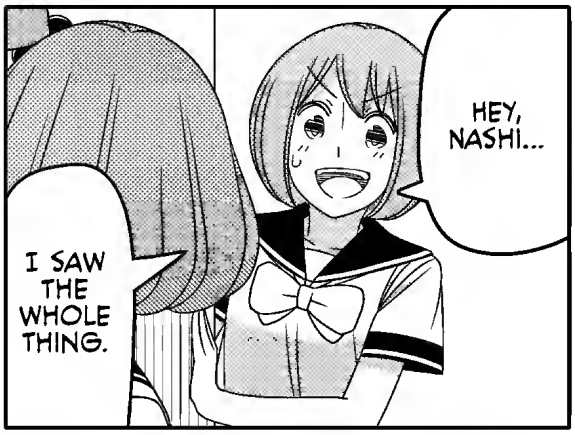
...WATCH-ING YOU EAT.
HUH? OH... YEAH?
YEAH. YOU LOOK LIKE A HAM-STER.
AHH...
END

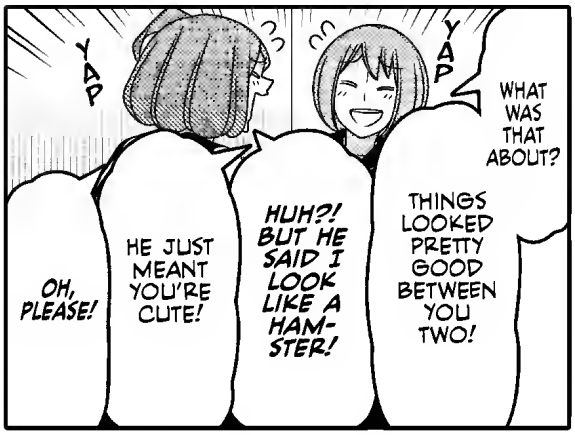

BAAAAN
ZAAAAAI!

T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N







TSURE×DURE CHILDREN

I RAN INTO A FRIEND...
...I DON'T PARTICULARLY GET ALONG WITH AT THE MUSIC STORE.
HUH?

O-OH, IF IT ISN'T UBUKATA-SAN!
GOOD AFTERNOON...
WELL, I DON'T HATE HIM OR ANYTHING.

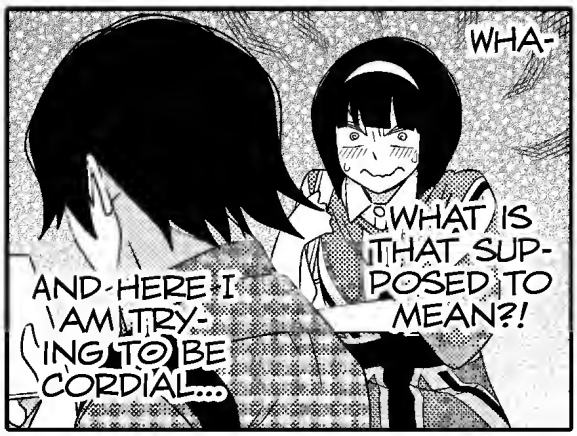
SHIBASAKI...
YOU HAVE A PRETTY LAME SENSE OF FASHION, HUH?

I...
...DON'T HATE HIM, REALLY!

L&R

N-NOT REALLY.
I JUST THOUGHT I'D TAKE A LOOK AROUND!
AH, 'ZAT RIGHT...

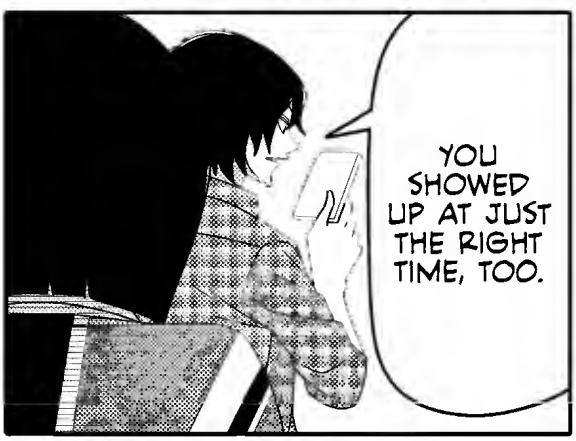
A-
ARE YOU SHOPPING, TOO, UBUKATA-SAN?
UH-HUH.
I CAME TO GET THIS BAND'S NEW ALBUM.


WHA-
WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
AND HERE I AM TRYING TO BE CORDIAL...

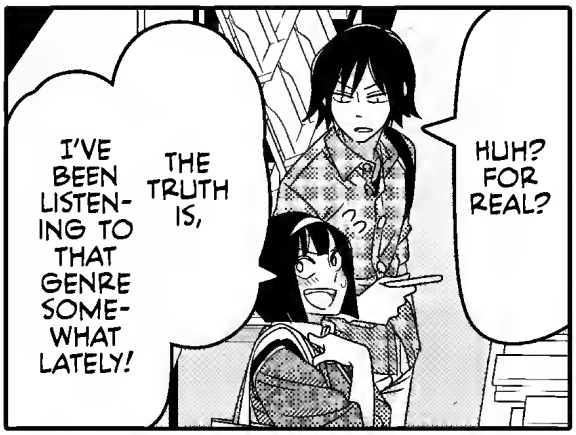
OH?!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! ME, TOO!
COULD THIS BE MY CHANCE TO GET CLOSER TO HIM?

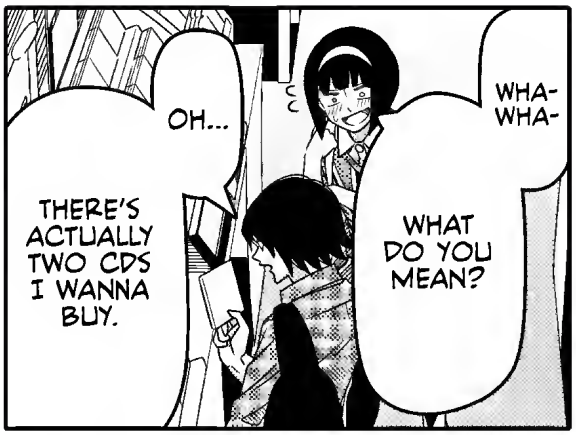
OH, BUT...
...I ONLY MEAN AS A FRIEND, OF COURSE.
THERE'S NO DEEPER MEANING.

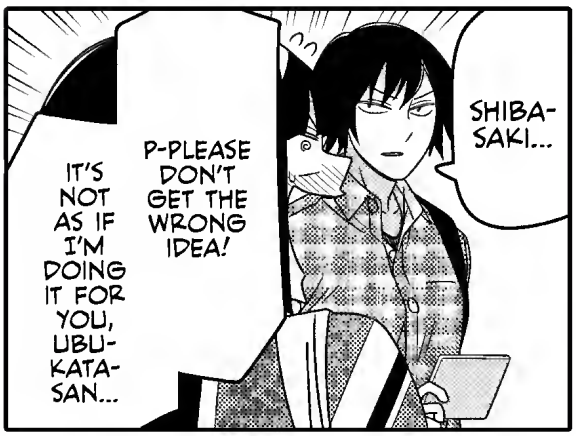
WHAT, FUGLY?
YOU HERE TO BUY IT, TOO?


YOU SHOWED UP AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME, TOO.

I HATE HIM! I HATE HIM!
HIM! I HATE HIM! I HATE

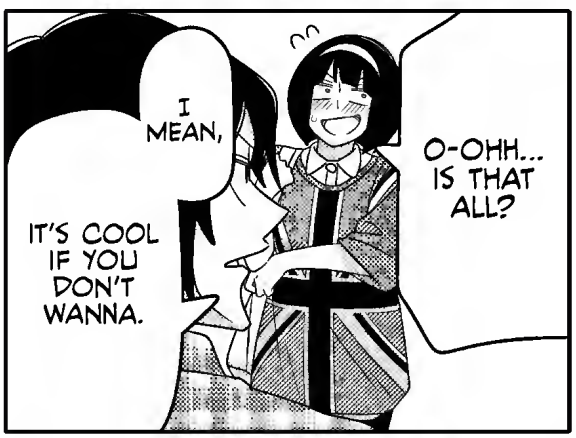

HUH? FOR REAL?
THE TRUTH IS,
I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THAT GENRE SOMEWHAT LATELY!


WHA-WHA-
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
OH...
THERE'S ACTUALLY TWO CDS I WANNA BUY.


SHIBASAKI...
P-PLEASE DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA!
IT'S NOT AS IF I'M DOING IT FOR YOU, UBUKATA-SAN...

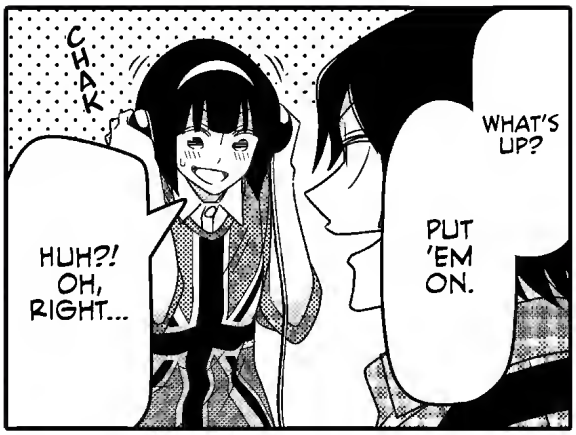
BUT I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FOR BOTH.
IF YOU WERE GONNA BUY THIS ONE...
...I THOUGHT I'D GET THE OTHER,
THEN I COULD JUST BORROW YOUR COPY LATER.

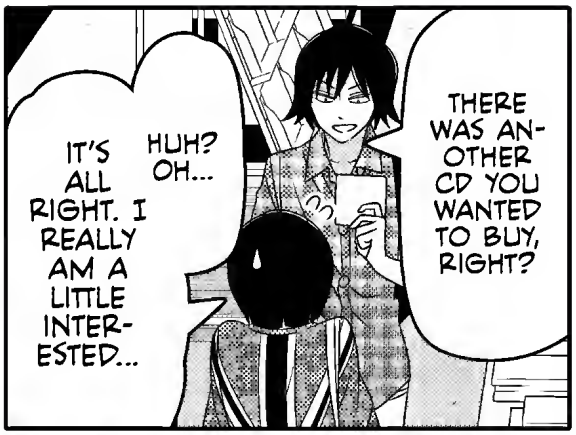
Y'KNOW...
...YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY NICE.


O-OHH... IS THAT ALL?
I MEAN,
IT'S COOL IF YOU DON'T WANNA.

!

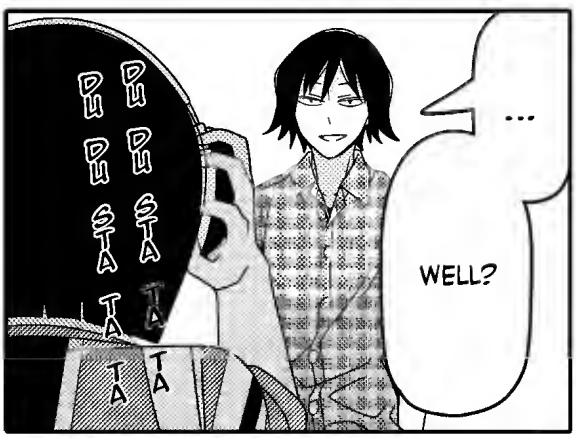
HMPH!
WHY NOT? I DON'T MIND!


CHAK
WHAT'S UP?
PUT 'EM ON.
HUH?! OH, RIGHT...


THERE WAS ANOTHER CD YOU WANTED TO BUY, RIGHT?
HUH? OH...
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I REALLY AM A LITTLE INTERESTED...

TH-THAT'S NOT FAIR!
EVEN IF UBUKATA-SAN WAS INTERESTED IN ME...
DON'T ACT SO NICE ALL OF A SUDDEN.
...I DON'T...

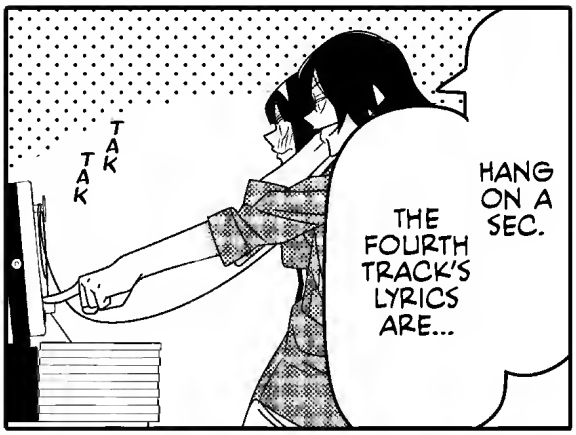
TRY GIVING THIS A LISTEN, THEN.
I DUNNO IF IT'S YOUR THING, BUT...
A-ALL RIGHT...


DU DU STA TA
DU DU STA TA
...
WELL?

PERSONALLY ...
...I LOVE IT.

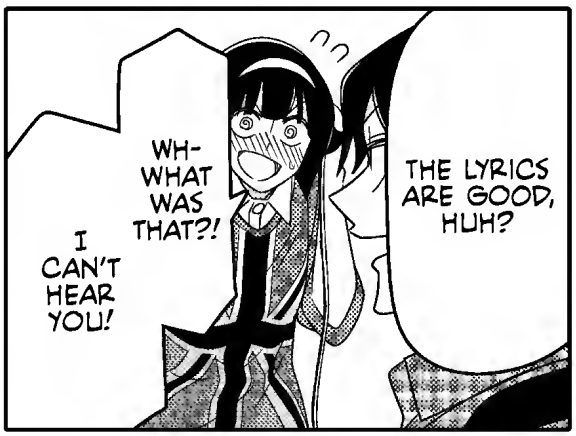
I LIKE IT...

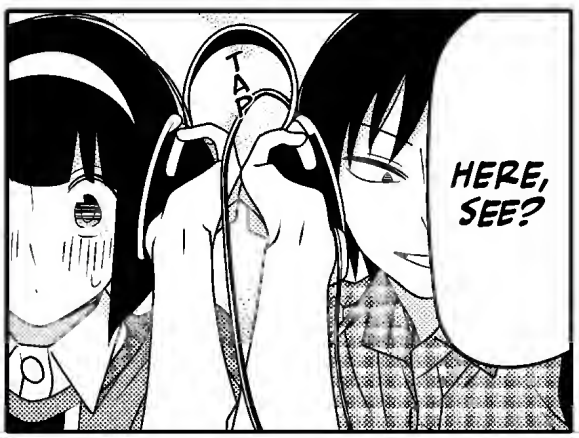
HE LOVES IT...!


TAK
TAK
TAK
HANG ON A SEC.
THE FOURTH TRACK'S LYRICS ARE...

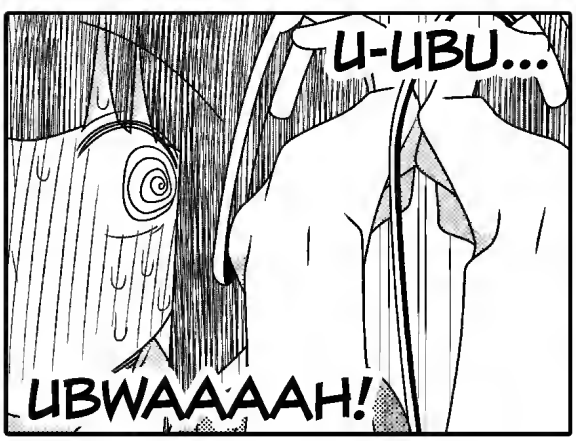
OH, YEAH?!
BADUM
HUH?! ERR...
Y-YES, IT'S A NICE SONG!

S-STAY CALM!
THIS IS PERFECTLY NORMAL FOR FRIENDS...

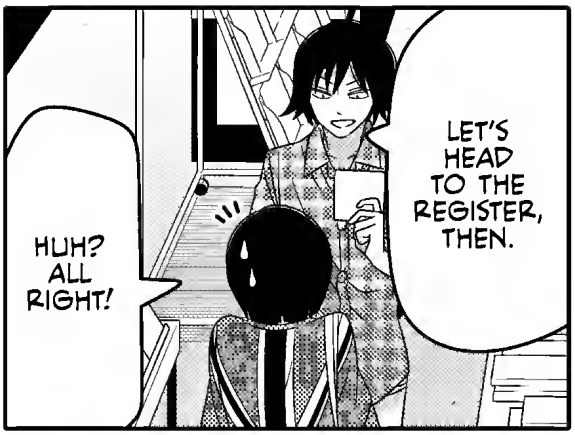

THE LYRICS ARE GOOD, HUH?
WH-WHAT WAS THAT?!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

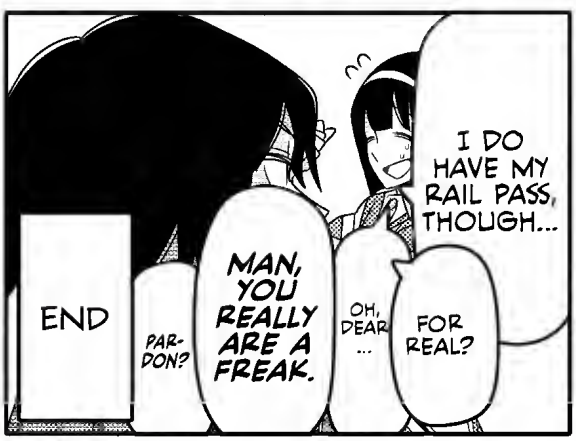

TAP
HERE, SEE?

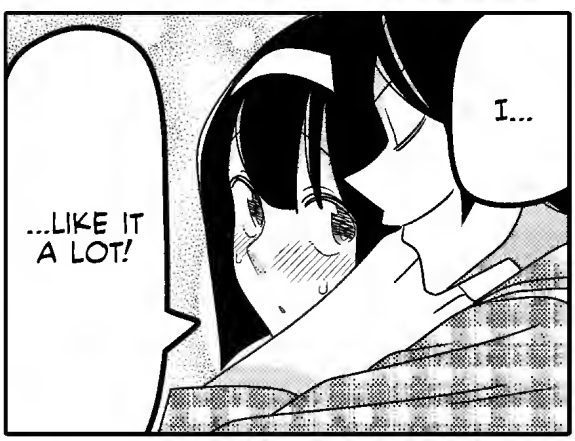
HUH?
CHAK


U-UBU...
UBWAAAAH!

GIMME ONE END.



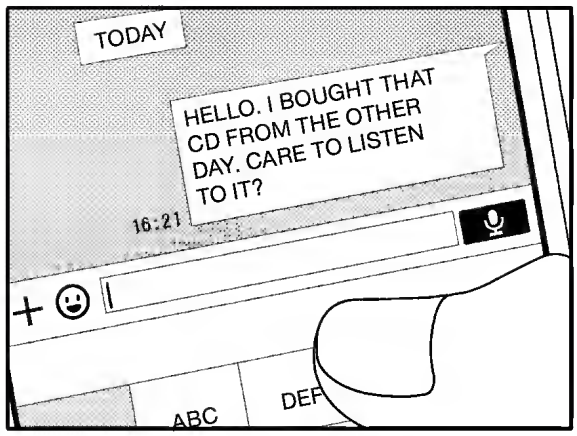


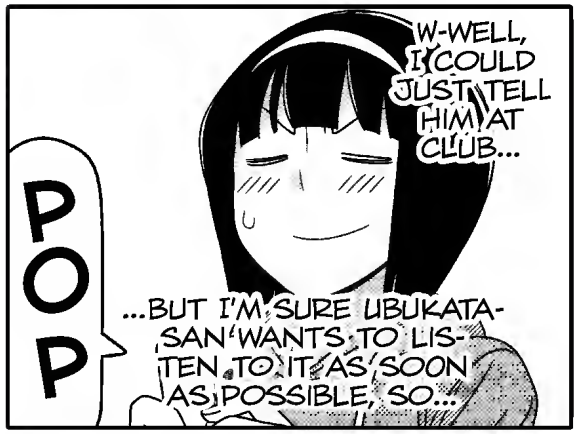


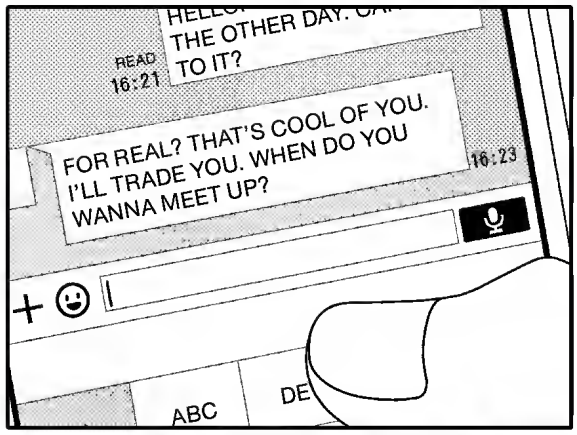
* RAIL PASSES IN JAPAN CAN BE USED IN SOME STORES.

T S U r e × D U r e

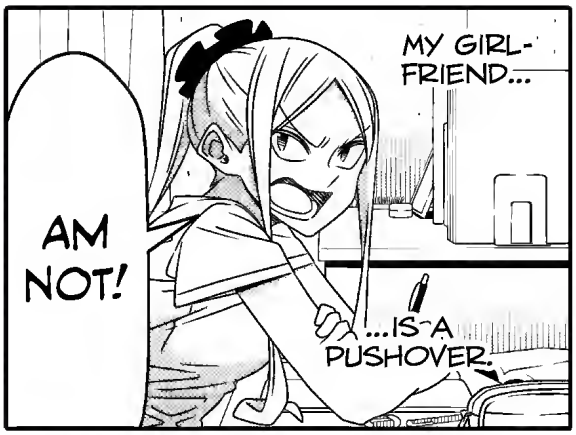
C H I L D R E N

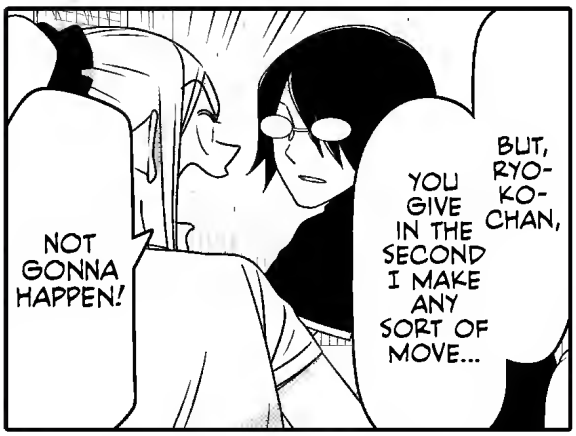

TODAY
HELLO. I BOUGHT THAT CD FROM THE OTHER DAY. CARE TO LISTEN TO IT?
16:21
ABC
DEF

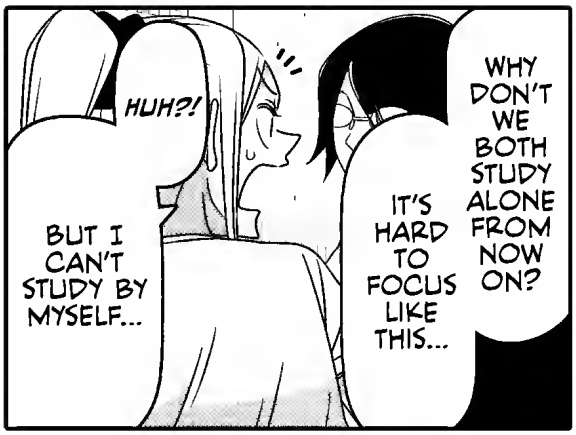

W-WELL, I COULD JUST TELL HIM AT CLUB...
POP
...BUT I'M SURE UBUKATA-SAN WANTS TO LISTEN TO IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SO...

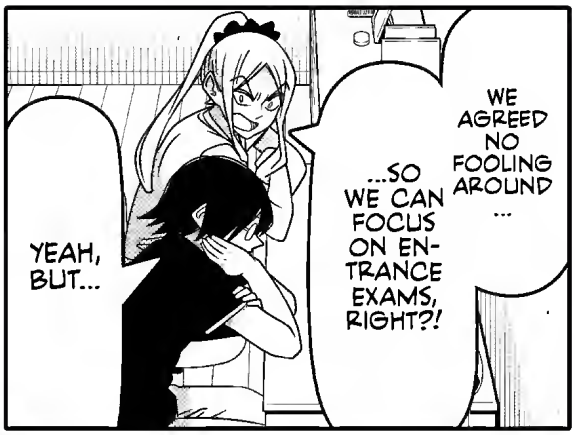

READ
16:21
TO IT?
FOR REAL? THAT'S COOL OF YOU. I'LL TRADE YOU. WHEN DO YOU WANNA MEET UP?
16:23
ABC

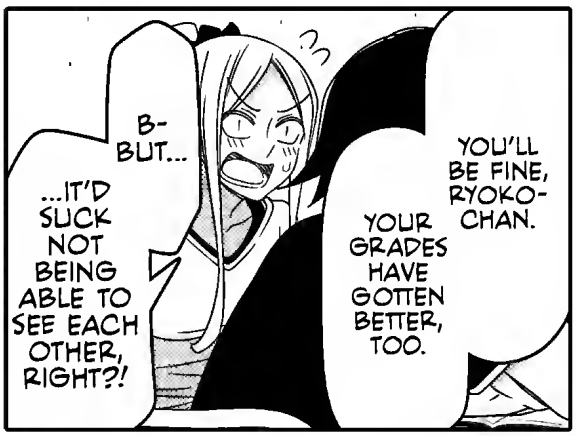
Just Can't Stop

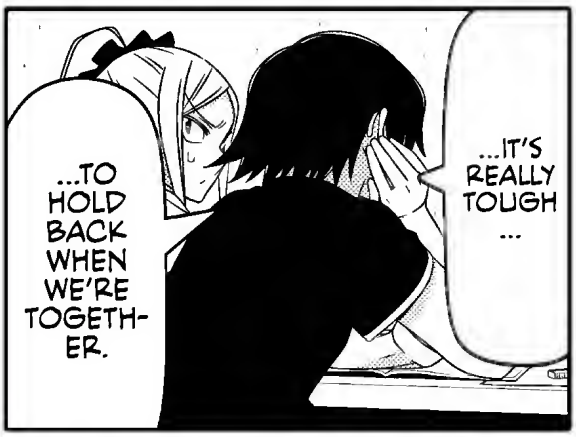


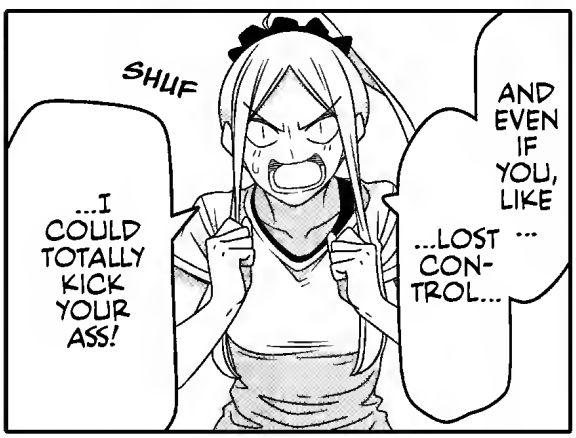



WHY DON'T WE BOTH STUDY ALONE FROM NOW ON?
IT'S HARD TO FOCUS LIKE THIS...
HUH?!
BUT I CAN'T STUDY BY MYSELF...

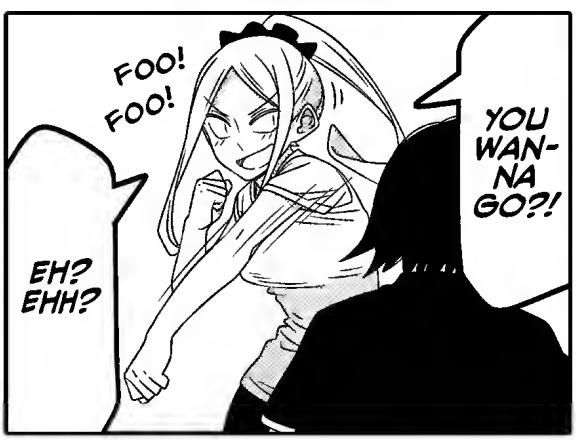

WE AGREED NO FOOLING AROUND ...
...SO WE CAN FOCUS ON ENTRANCE EXAMS, RIGHT?!
YEAH, BUT...


YOU'LL BE FINE, RYOKO-CHAN.
YOUR GRADES HAVE GOTTEN BETTER, TOO.
B-BUT...
...IT'D SUCK NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE EACH OTHER, RIGHT?!

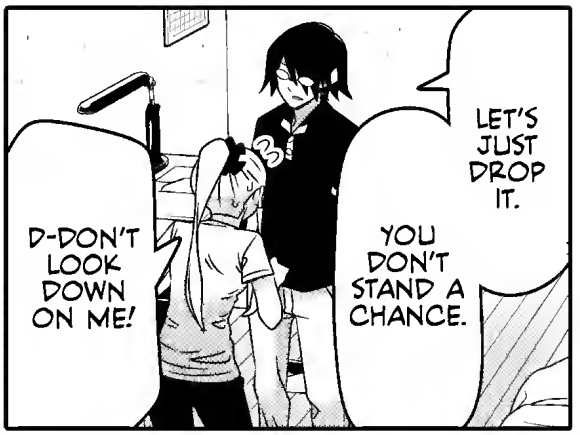

...IT'S REALLY TOUGH ...
...TO HOLD BACK WHEN WE'RE TOGETH-ER.

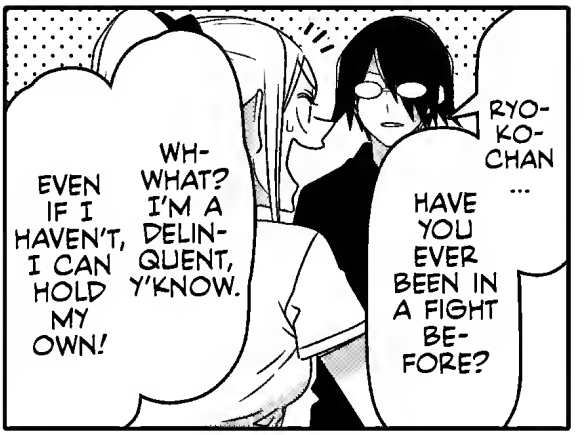

AND EVEN IF YOU, LIKE ... ...LOST CON-TROL...
SHUF
...I COULD TOTALLY KICK YOUR ASS!

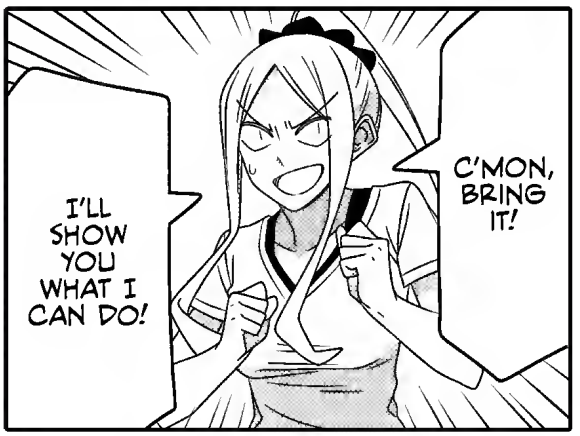
FINE...
YOU CAN KISS ME, BUT THAT'S IT.

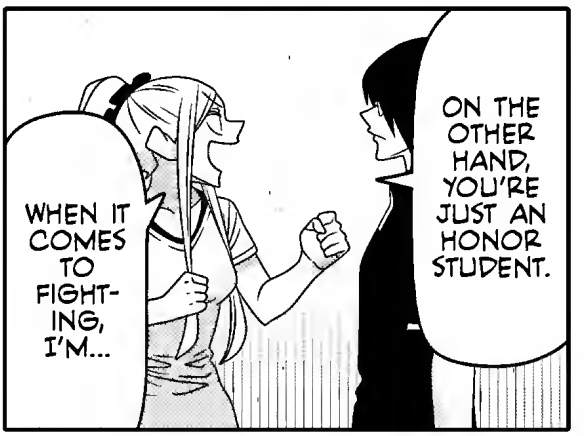

YOU WAN-NA GO?!
FOO! FOO!
EH? EHH?

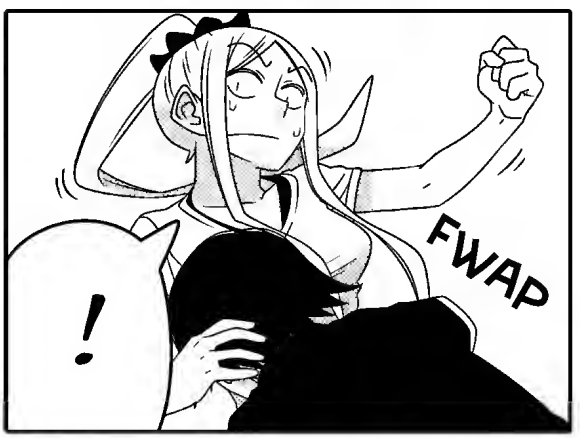
SIIIGH.

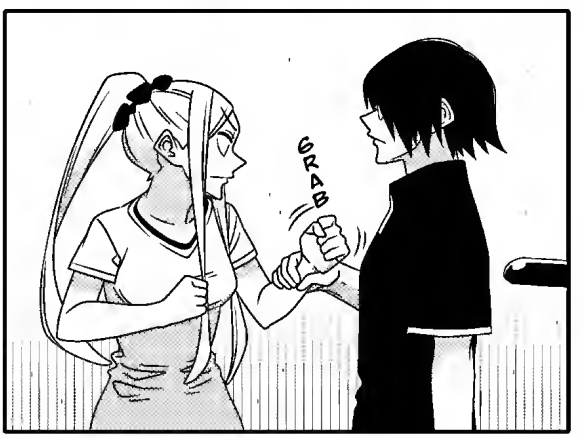

LET'S JUST DROP IT.
YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE.
D-DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME!

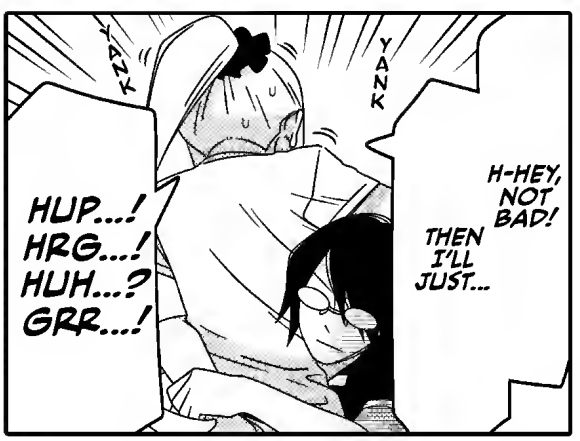

RYO-KO-CHAN ...
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN A FIGHT BE-FORE?
WH-WHAT? I'M A DELIN-QUENT, Y'KNOW.
EVEN IF I HAVEN'T, I CAN HOLD MY OWN!

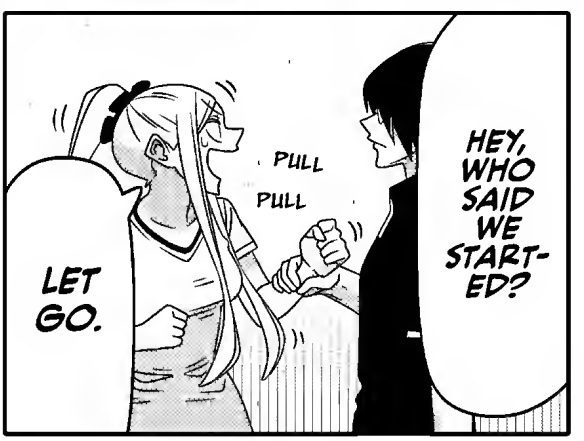

C'MON, BRING IT!
I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I CAN DO!

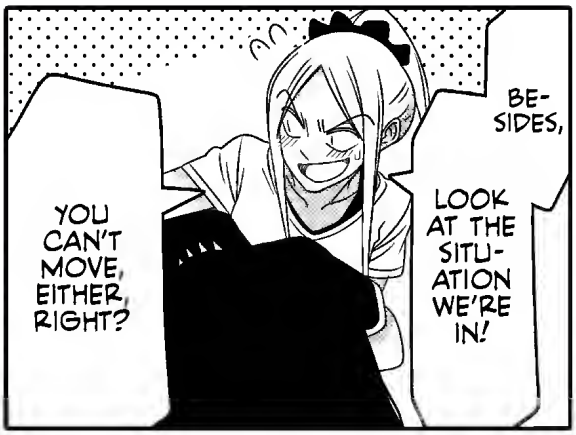

ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU'RE JUST AN HONOR STUDENT.
WHEN IT COMES TO FIGHT-ING, I'M...


FWAP
!


GRAB

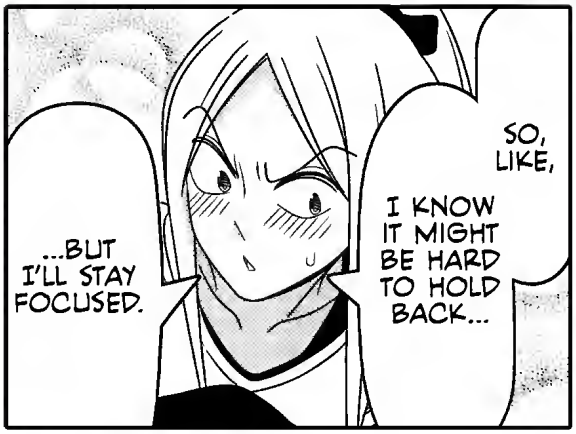

YANK
YANK
H-HEY, NOT BAD!
THEN I'LL JUST...
HUP...! HRG...! HUH...? GRR...!


HEY, WHO SAID WE START-ED?
PULL
PULL
LET GO.


RYO-KO-CHAN, I THINK WE SHOULD STUDY SEPA-RATELY, AFTER ALL.
IT...
IT'S NOT OVER YET!

BE-SIDES, LOOK AT THE SITU-ATION WE'RE IN!
YOU CAN'T MOVE, EITHER, RIGHT?

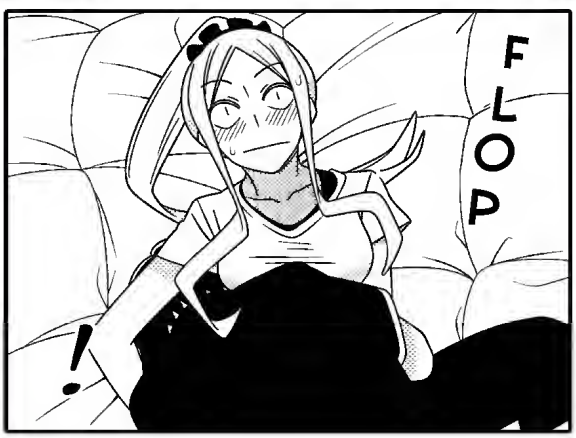
I MEAN, WE'LL HAVE TO EVEN-TUALLY. EVERY-ONE'S ON THEIR OWN DURING EXAMS.
YOU HAVE TO GET USED TO FLYING SOLO...


SO, LIKE, I KNOW IT MIGHT BE HARD TO HOLD BACK...
...BUT I'LL STAY FOCUSED.

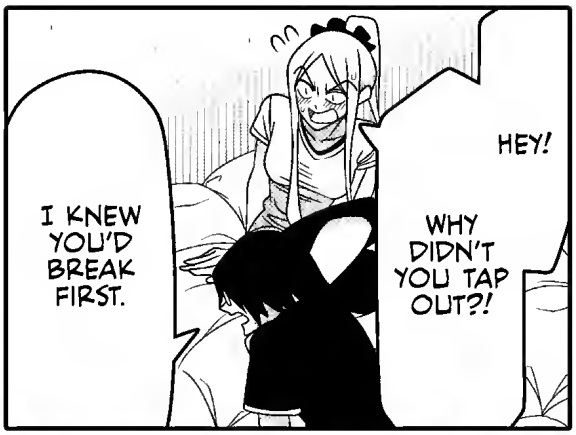
YOU'RE THE ONE...
...WHO MADE ME HATE BEING ALONE!

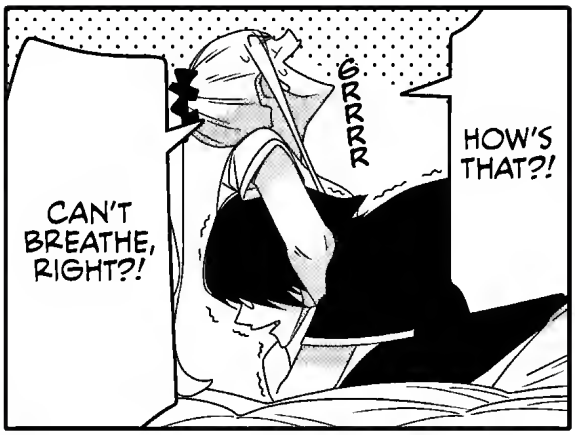
TMP
TMP
TMP

!


FLOP
!

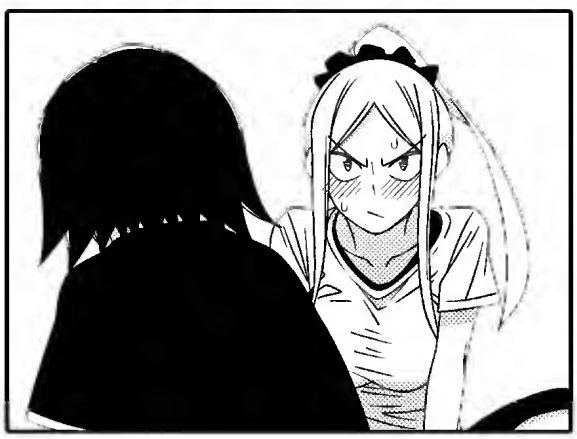
H-HEY!
ARE YOU LISTENING?!
I AM.
YOU'RE GONNA FIGHT BACK, RIGHT?
Y-YOU ASS!
DON'T UN-HOOK MY BRA!
C'MON,
YOU HAVE TO FIGHT BACK.
AAH!
RSTL
WHERE ARE YOU GRAB-BING?!
I-IS IT FINE WITH YOU ...IF WE DON'T SEE EACH OTHER AS MUCH ANY-MORE?!
IT'LL BE HARD, BUT KEEP-ING THIS UP ISN'T GOOD FOR EITHER OF US.
IF THAT'S HOW...
PULL
...YOU'RE GONNA BE, RYOKO-CHAN.
AND IF YOU CAN'T KEEP ME FROM DOING THIS MUCH...
SLIP
...THEN WE REALLY SHOULD-
THEN I'LL...
SNAP
...HAVE TO GET SERI-OUS, TOO.
HRAAAAAH!
CLENCH
!


I KNEW YOU'D BREAK FIRST.
HEY!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TAP OUT?!

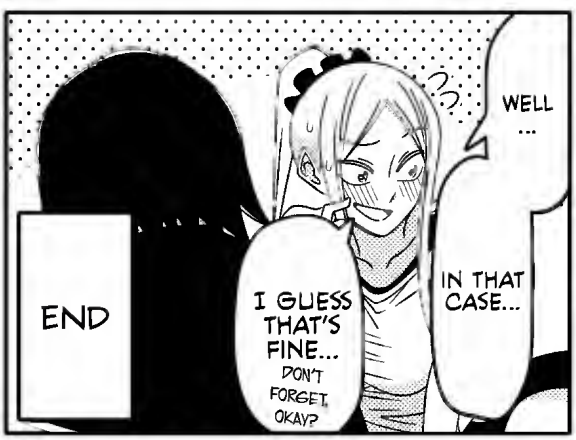

GRRRR
HOW'S THAT?!
CAN'T BREATHE, RIGHT?!

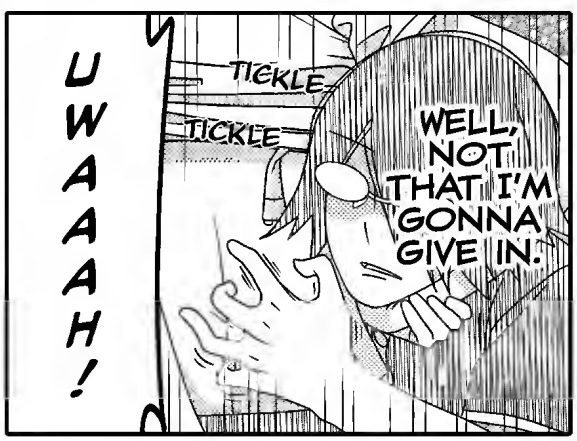
WE CAN BE TOGETHER ALL WE WANT.
ONCE EXAMS ARE OVER,
LET'S STUDY SEPARATELY, AFTER ALL.

WAY TO GO, RYOKO-CHAN.
LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN GO ALL OUT...
...EVEN AGAINST ME.



WELL?!
GIVE UP?!
TAP OUT!


END
I GUESS THAT'S FINE... DON'T FORGET, OKAY?
IN THAT CASE...
WELL ...

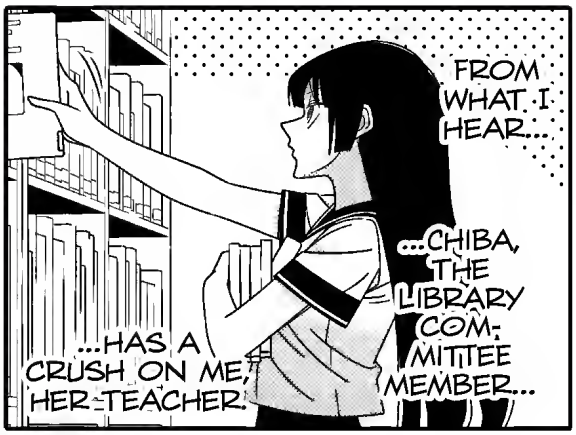

UWAAAH!
TICKLE
TICKLE
WELL, NOT THAT I'M GONNA GIVE IN.

T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N

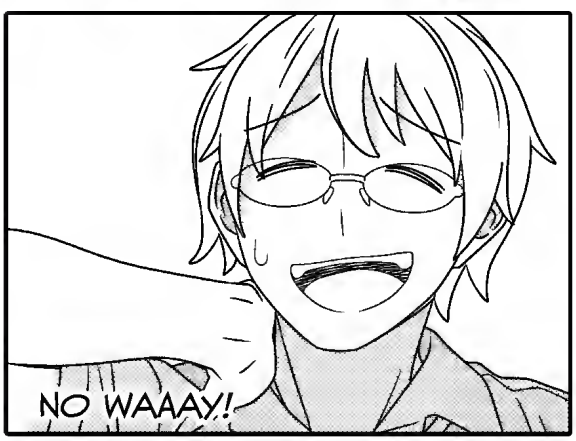
T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N


FROM WHAT I HEAR...
...CHIBA, THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEMBER...
...HAS A CRUSH ON ME, HER TEACHER.

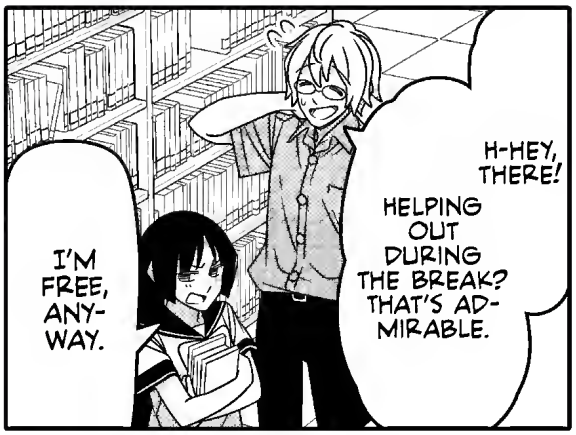
!
THERE'S NO WAY...

GLARE
WHAT?

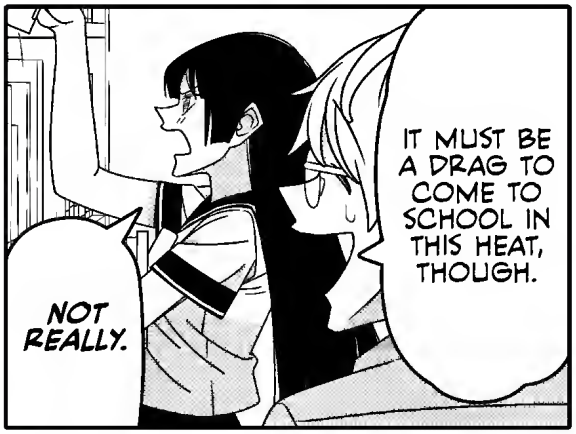

NO WAAAY!

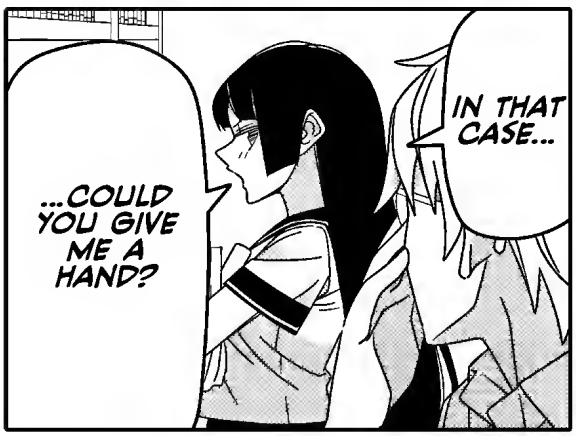
Help

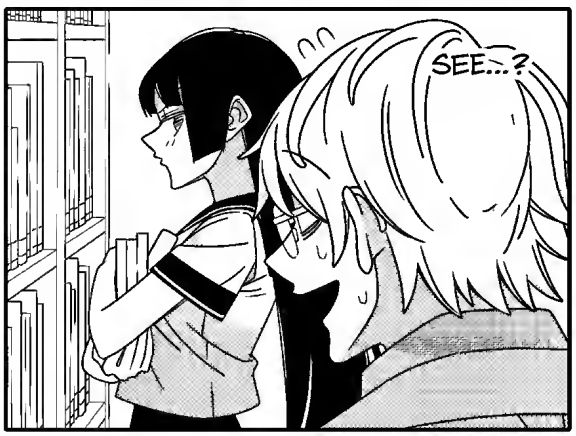
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SEN-SEI?
AREN'T YOU BUSY?
HUH? OH, NOT THAT MUCH!


H-HEY, THERE!
HELPING OUT DURING THE BREAK? THAT'S AD-MIRABLE.
I'M FREE, ANY-WAY.

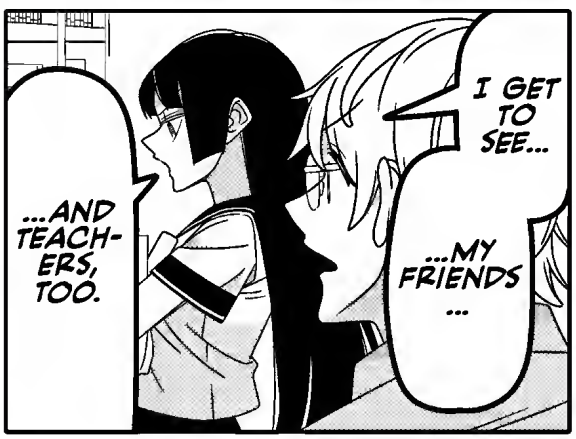
I'M OVER-THINKING THINGS.
WHAT, WOULD A "CHARM-ING" HIGH SCHOOL GIRL...
...SEE IN A GLOOMY TEACHER LIKE ME, ANYWAY?


IT MUST BE A DRAG TO COME TO SCHOOL IN THIS HEAT, THOUGH.
NOT REALLY.

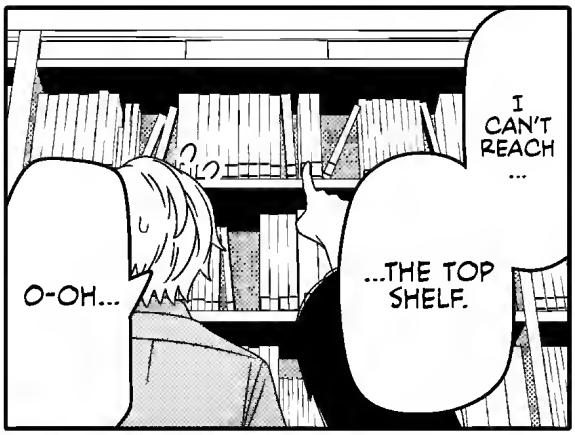

IN THAT CASE...
...COULD YOU GIVE ME A HAND?

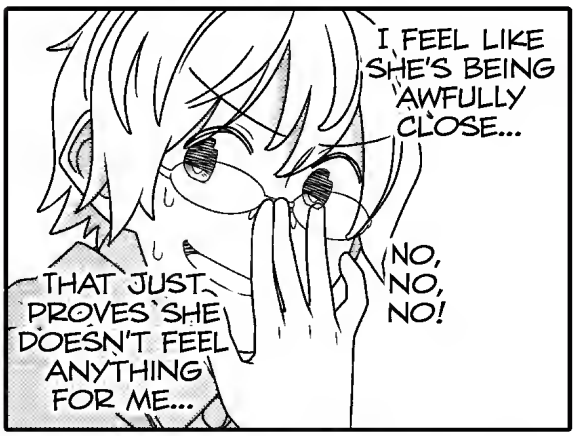

SEE...?

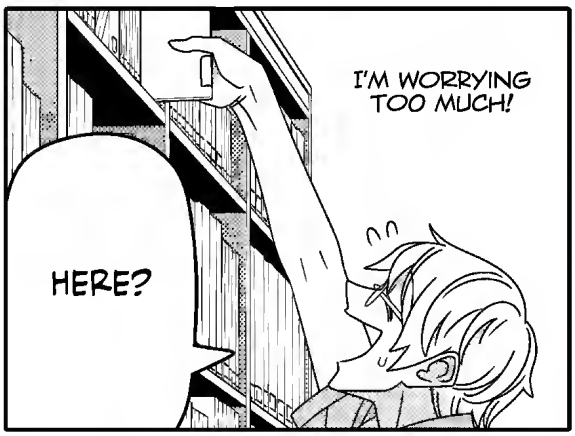
?!

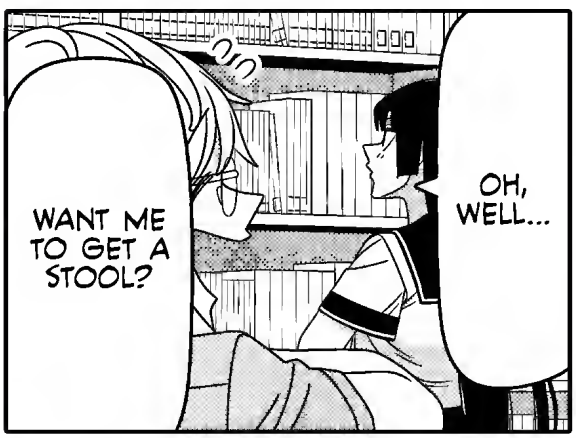

I GET TO SEE...
...MY FRIENDS ...
...AND TEACH-ERS, TOO.

S-SORRY...
I CAN'T READ FINE PRINT...
LOOK AT THE LABEL!
THEY'RE ORGANIZED BY AUTHOR!


I CAN'T REACH...
...THE TOP SHELF.
O-OH...

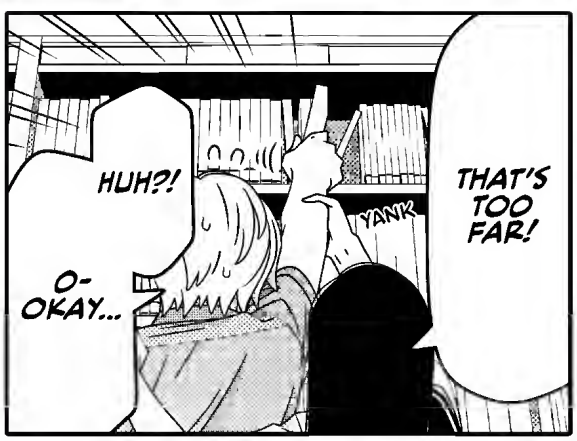

I FEEL LIKE SHE'S BEING AWFULLY CLOSE...
NO, NO, NO!
THAT JUST PROVES SHE DOESN'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR ME...

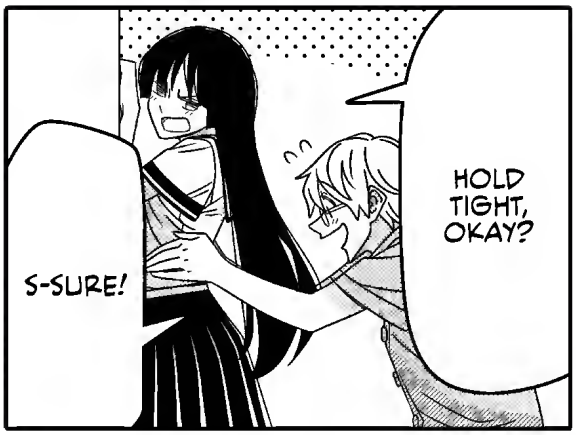

I'M WORRYING TOO MUCH!
HERE?

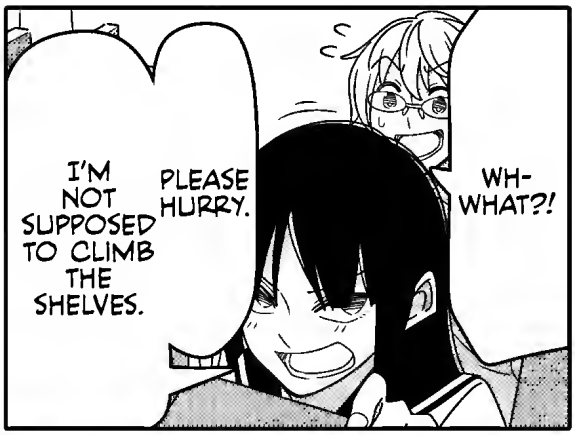

OH, WELL...
WANT ME TO GET A STOOL?

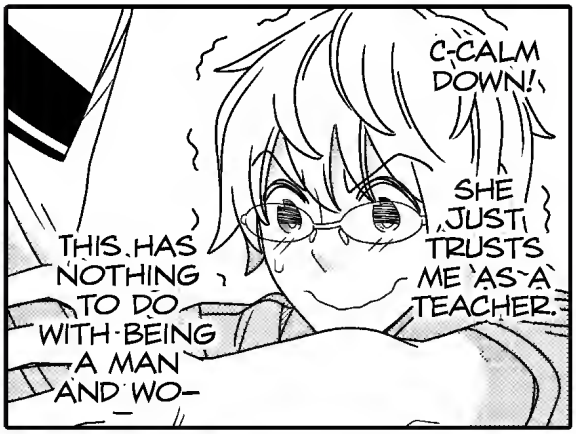
NO...
MORE TO THE LEFT.
H-HERE?
TAP

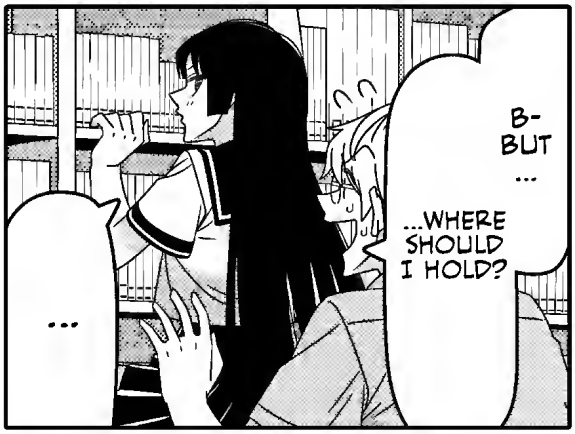
CAN YOU GIVE ME A BOOST?


THAT'S TOO FAR!
YANK
HUH?!
O-OKAY...

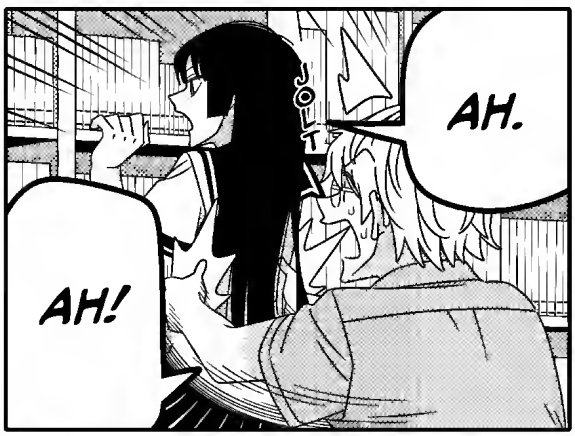

HOLD TIGHT, OKAY?
S-SURE!


WH-WHAT?!
PLEASE HURRY.
I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO CLIMB THE SHELVES.

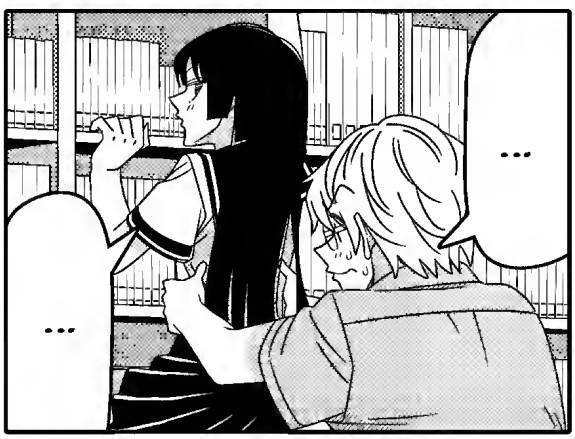

C-CALM DOWN!
SHE JUST TRUSTS ME AS A TEACHER.
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BEING A MAN AND WO–

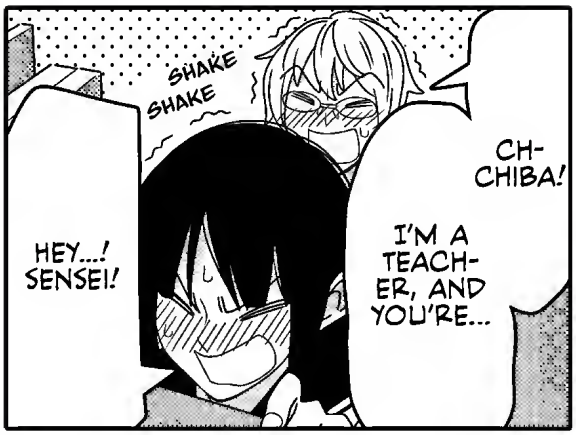

B-BUT ...
...WHERE SHOULD I HOLD?
...

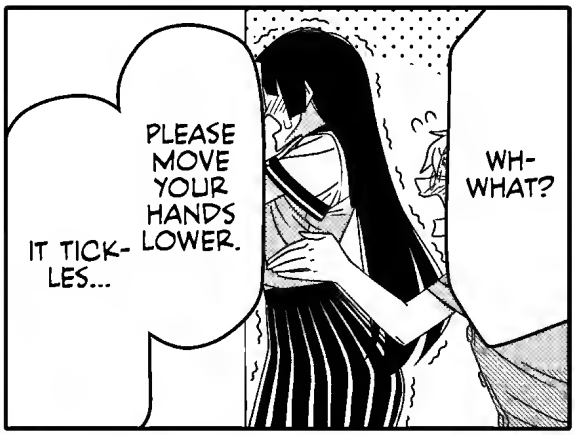
SEN-SEI...
LOWER, PLEASE.


AH.
JOLT
AH!

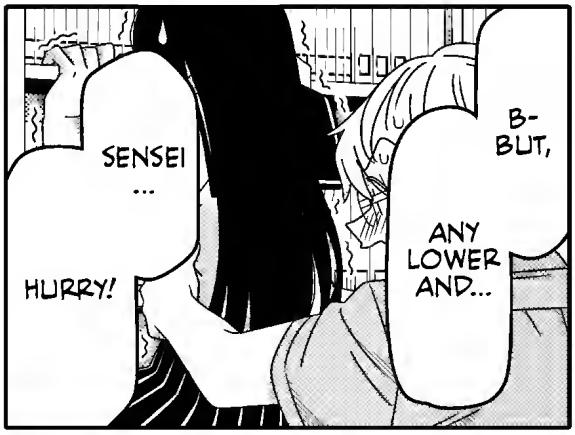
!

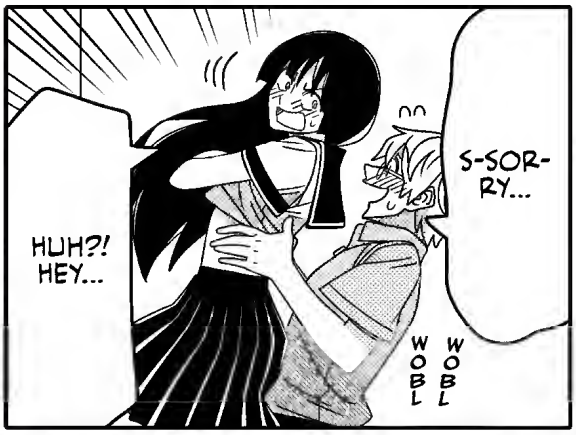

...
...

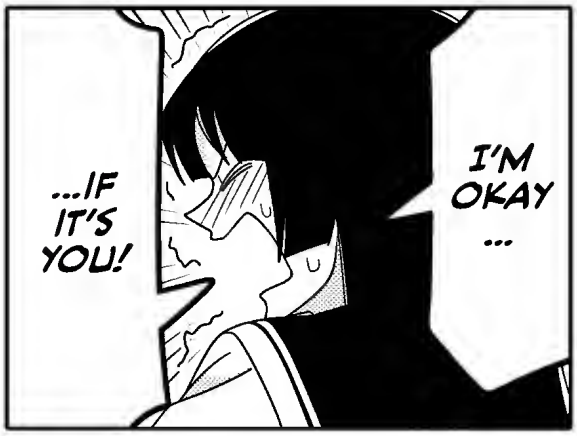

SHAKE SHAKE
CH-CHIBA!
I'M A TEACH-ER, AND YOU'RE...
HEY...! SENSEI!


WH-WHAT?
PLEASE MOVE YOUR HANDS LOWER.
IT TICK-LES...

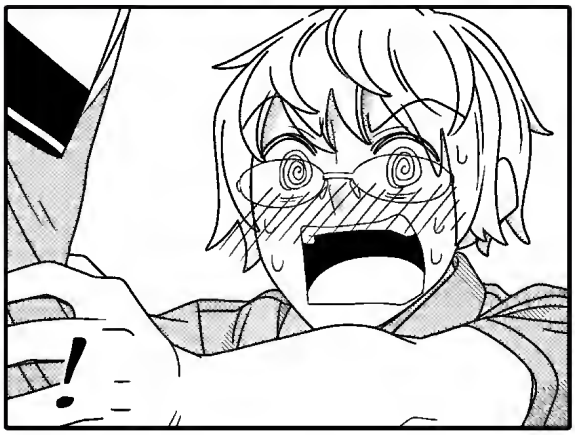
SHWIP

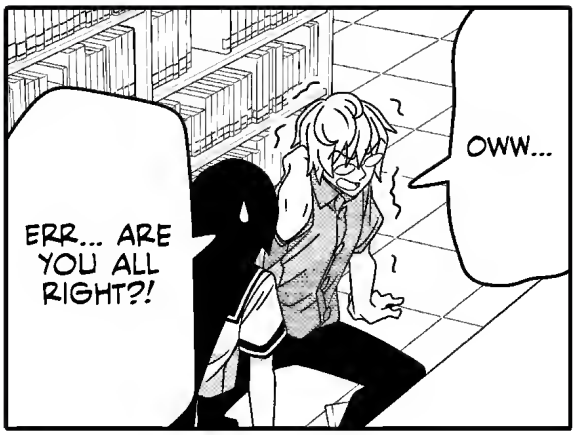

B-BUT,
ANY LOWER AND...
SENSEI ...
HURRY!


S-SOR-RY...
WOBL WOBL
HUH?! HEY...

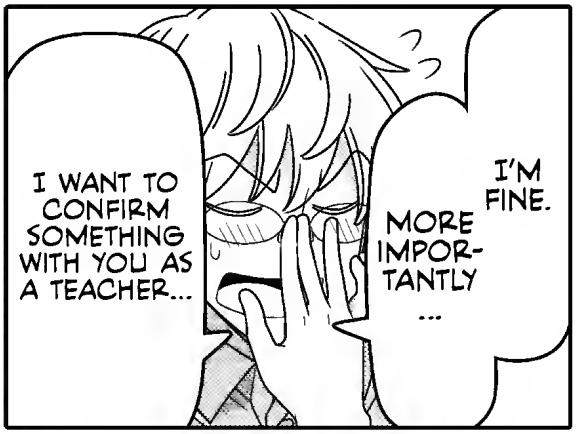

I'M OKAY ...
...IF IT'S YOU!

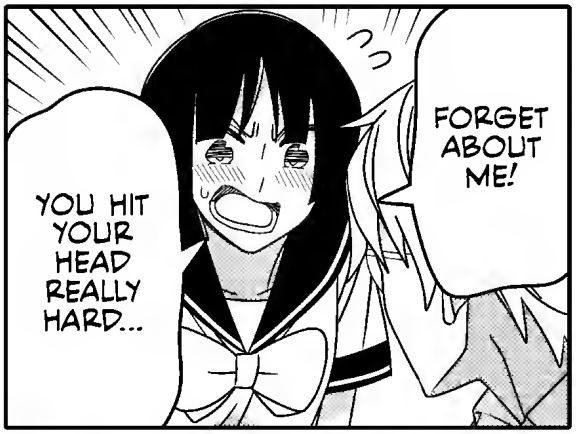
WHACK



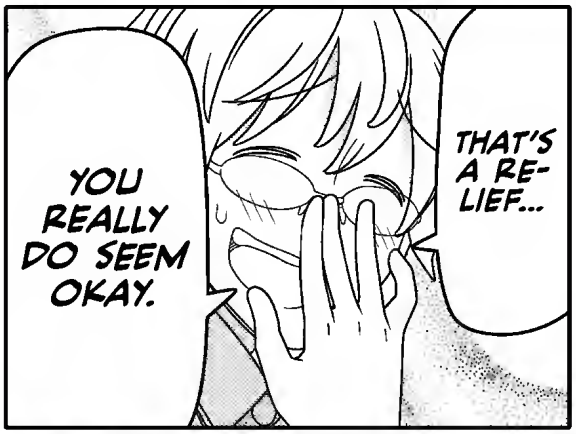

OWW...
ERR... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, CHIBA?!
I-I'M FINE...


I'M FINE.
MORE IMPORTANTLY ...
I WANT TO CONFIRM SOMETHING WITH YOU AS A TEACHER...


FORGET ABOUT ME!
YOU HIT YOUR HEAD REALLY HARD...

NO.


THAT'S A RELIEF...
YOU REALLY DO SEEM OKAY.

LET'S GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
WAIT, I HAVE TO—
TEACHER MY BUTT.
ARE YOU HURT?
I HATE YOU.
END

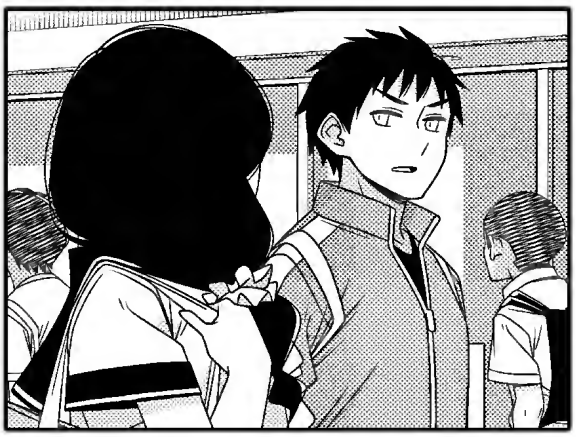
T S U r e × D U r e

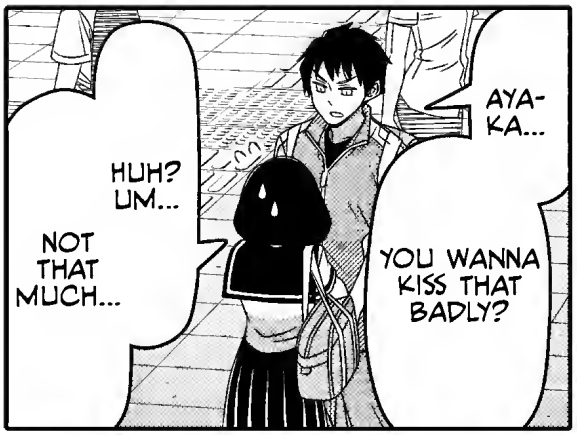
C H I L D R E N

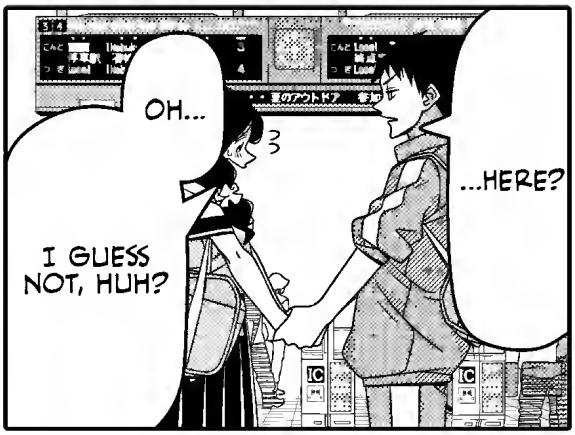
T S U r e × D U r e

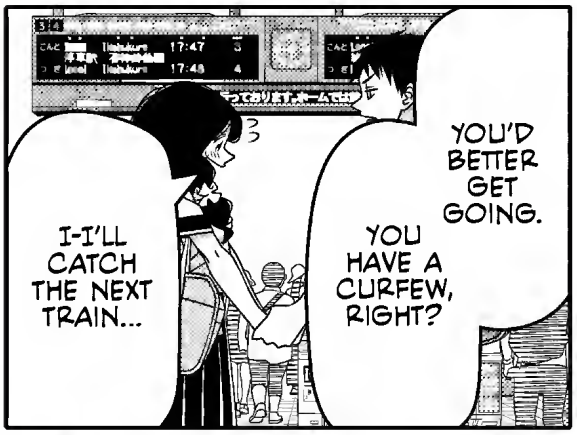
C H I L D R E N

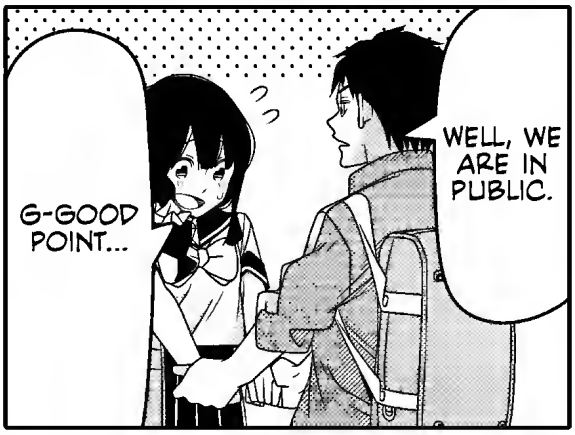
First-Love-Crazy

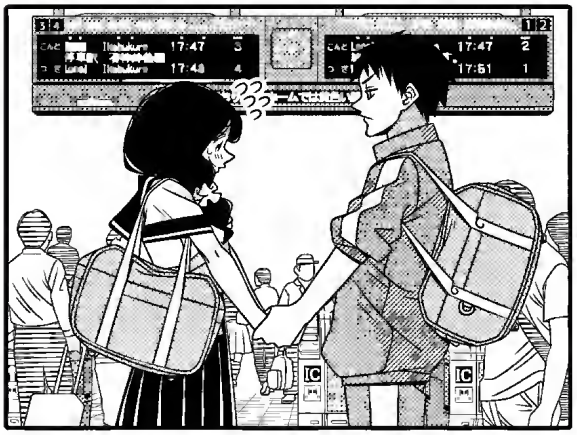



AYA-KA...
YOU WANNA KISS THAT BADLY?
HUH? UM...
NOT THAT MUCH...


OH...
...HERE?
I GUESS NOT, HUH?


YOU'D BETTER GET GOING.
YOU HAVE A CURFEW, RIGHT?
I-I'LL CATCH THE NEXT TRAIN...


WELL, WE ARE IN PUBLIC.
G-GOOD POINT...

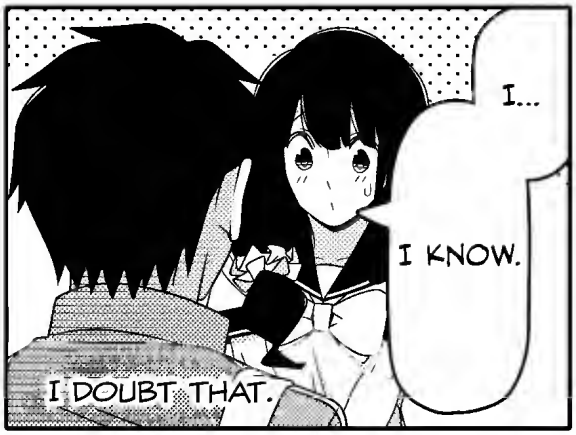


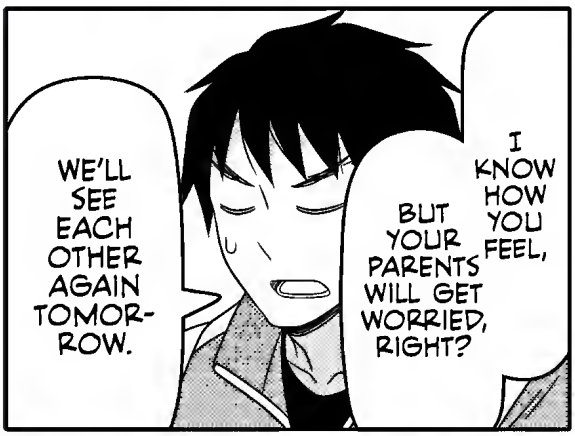
TO TO TO TOOT
THE NEXT TRAIN ON TRACK TWO WILL BE...

I'M NOT DOIN' IT.

SHAKE
SHAKE

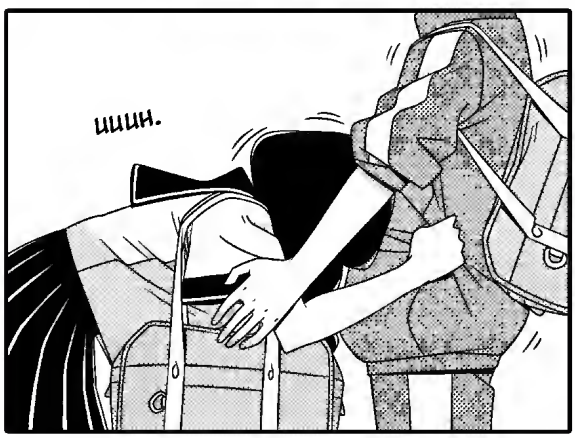
AYA-KA...
YOUR TRAIN'S ABOUT TO LEAVE.
...


I...
I KNOW.
I DOUBT THAT.


I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT YOUR PARENTS WILL GET WORRIED, RIGHT?
WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN TOMOR-ROW.

SHEESH.
SHE'S TOTALLY FAR GONE...
I HAVE TO KEEP IT TOGETHER— OR ELSE...!

I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TOMOR-ROW.


UUUH.

I'M NOT LEAVING...
...UNTIL YOU KISS ME.

GRIND
GRIND

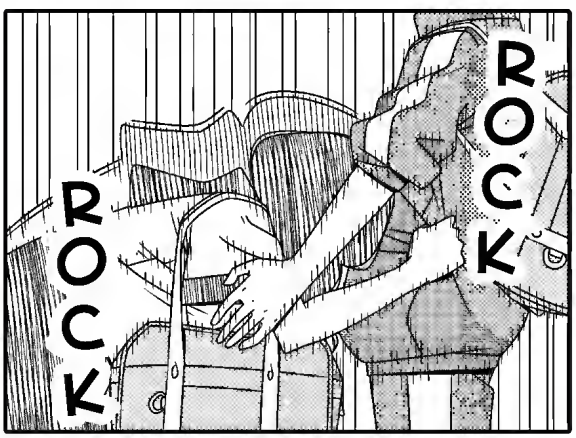
OH, WELL...
PEOPLE MIGHT STARE,
BUT I SHOULD JUST GET IT OVER WITH.

...
...
I AM.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

...ALL RIGHT.
I'LL KISS YOU.
LIFT YOUR HEAD UP.

AYAKA,
WHATEVER, IT'S JUST A KISS.
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT REEL IT BACK IN...
WAIT, NO! NOT IN FRONT OF EVERYONE!

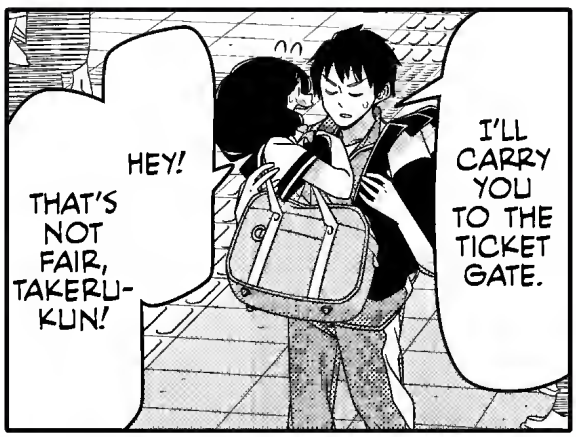
BEEEEEEEEAM
!

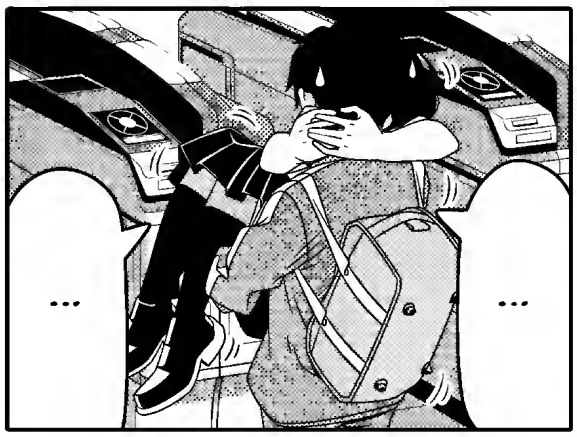

ROCK
ROCK

SWOOP
!

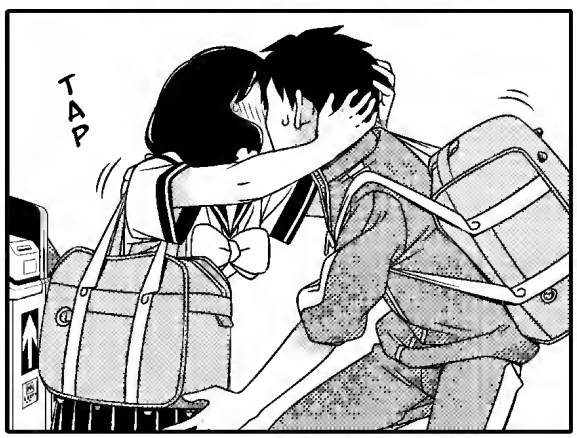
ROCK
ROCK

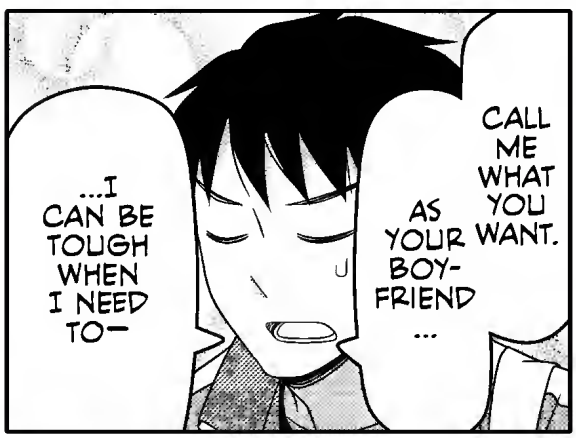
AYA...
...


I'LL CARRY YOU TO THE TICKET GATE.
HEY! THAT'S NOT FAIR, TAKERU-KUN!


...
...

GET YOUR PASS OUT.
YOU SAID YOU'D KISS ME!
YOU BIG LIAR!

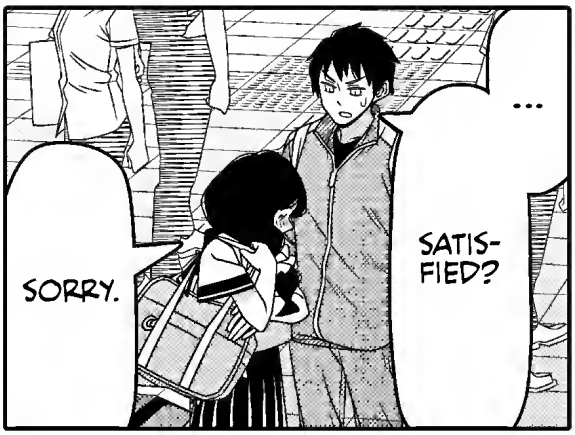

TAP


CALL ME WHAT YOU WANT.
AS YOUR BOY-FRIEND ...
...I CAN BE TOUGH WHEN I NEED TO—

?!

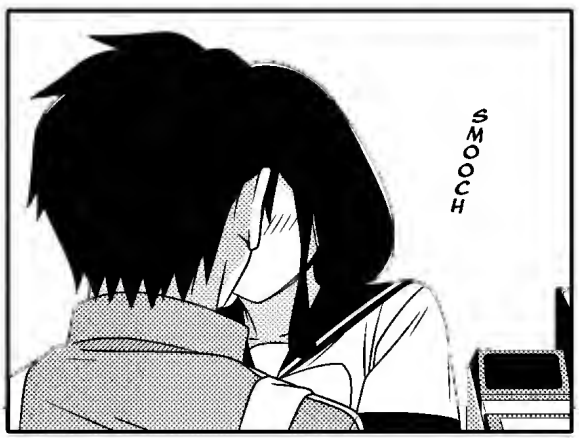
!

I'M NOT MAD.
BEEP BEEP
YEAH.
REALLY?
REALLY REALLY?


...
SATIS-FIED?
SORRY.

I'M TOO SOFT.
I'VE GOT-TA PULL IT TOGETHER...
LOOK, THE TRAIN'S COMING.

LISTEN, AYAKA.
WE SHOULD BE CON-SIDERATE OF OTHER PEOPLE.
LET'S KEEP IT AWAY FROM CROWDS...


SMOOCH

...
ARE YOU MAD?

BYYYE!
END

SHEESH...

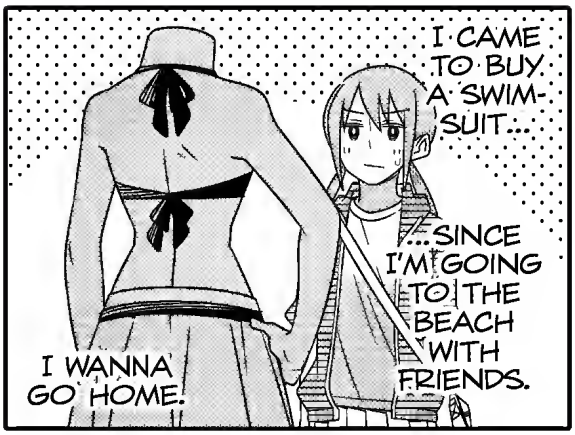
T S U r e × D U r e

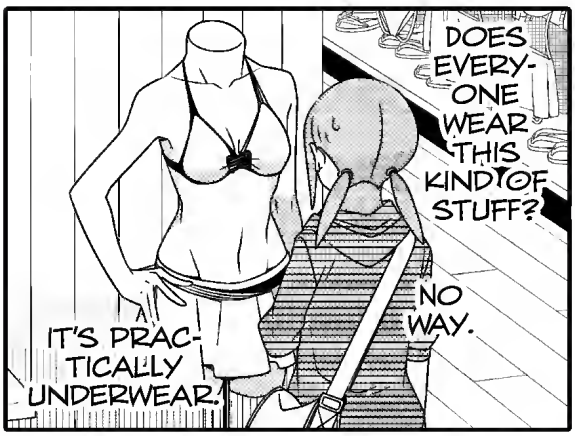
C H I L D R E N

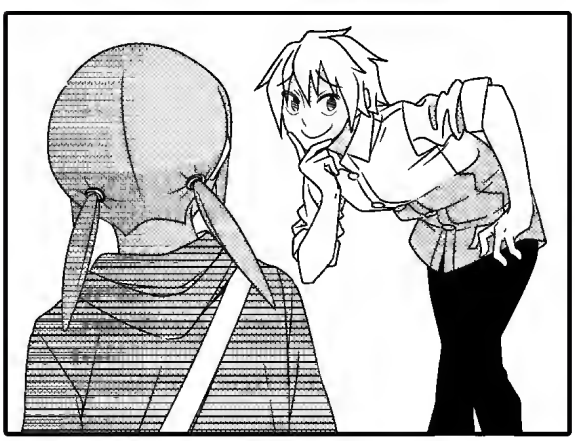
T S U ᒋ e × D U ᒋ e

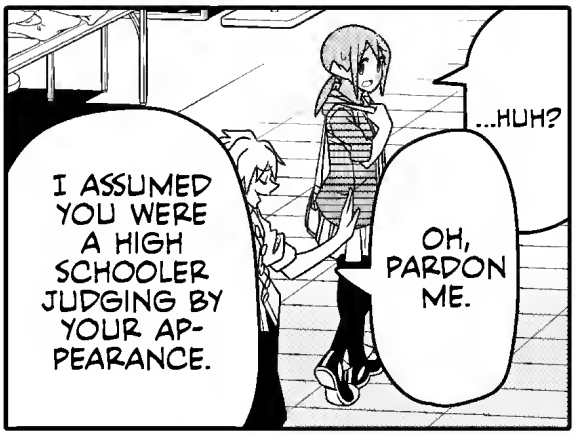
C H I L D R E N

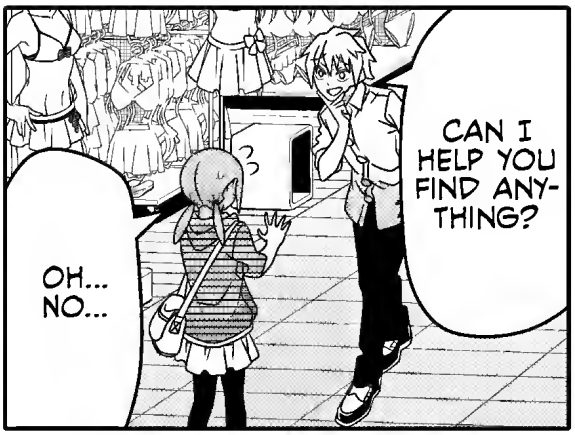
Coordinator

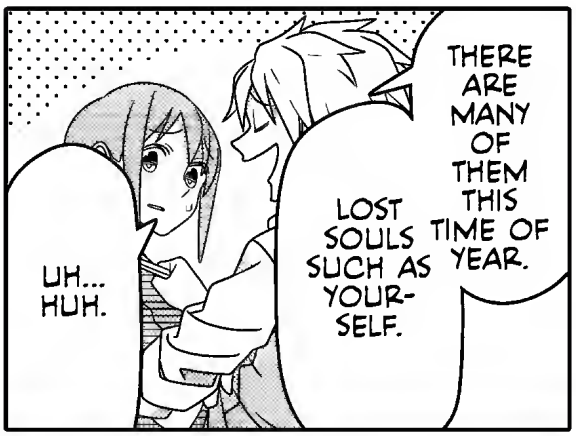




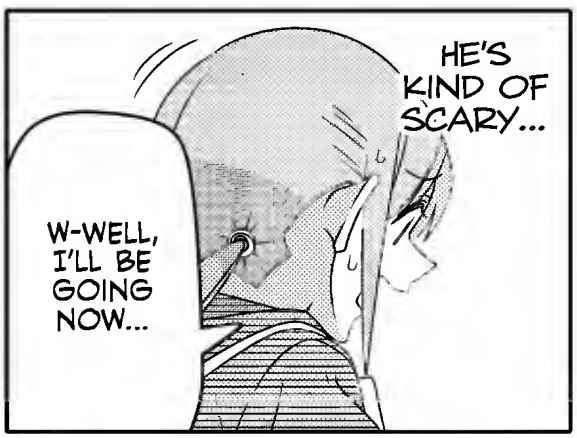



...HUH?
OH, PARDON ME.
I ASSUMED YOU WERE A HIGH SCHOOLER JUDGING BY YOUR APPEARANCE.

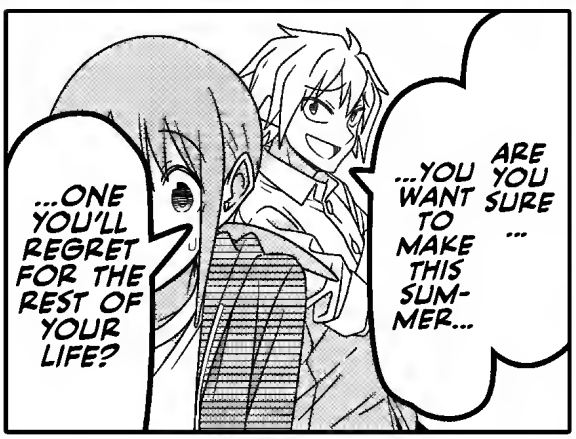

CAN I HELP YOU FIND ANYTHING?
OH... NO...


THERE ARE MANY OF THEM THIS TIME OF YEAR.
LOST SOULS SUCH AS YOURSELF.
UH... HUH.

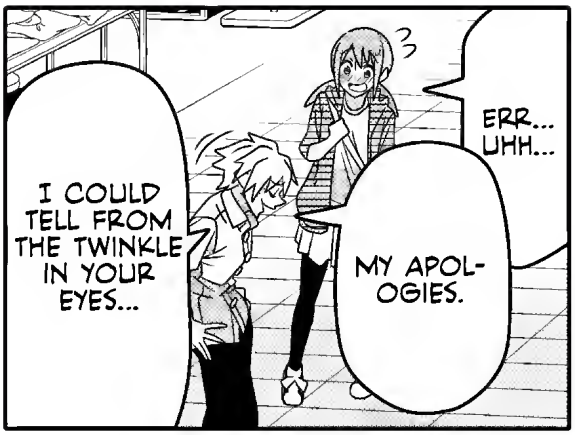
I DON'T WANNA GET HASSLED BY THE SHOP CLERK.
I WAS JUST LOOKING...

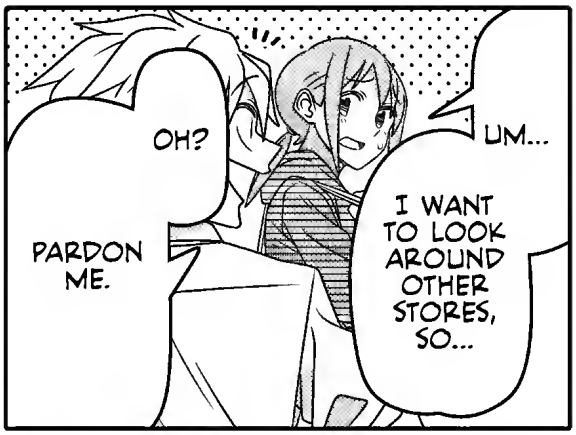

HE'S KIND OF SCARY...
W-WELL, I'LL BE GOING NOW...

AT THE IMAGE OF YOUR FUTURE SELF...
...GOING TO THE BEACH IN A SCHOOL SWIMSUIT?

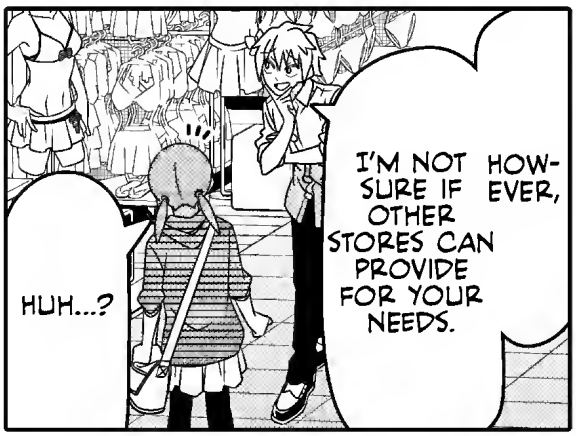

ARE YOU SURE ...
...YOU WANT TO MAKE THIS SUMMER...
...ONE YOU'LL REGRET FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?

?!


ERR... UHH...
MY APOL-OGIES.
I COULD TELL FROM THE TWINKLE IN YOUR EYES...

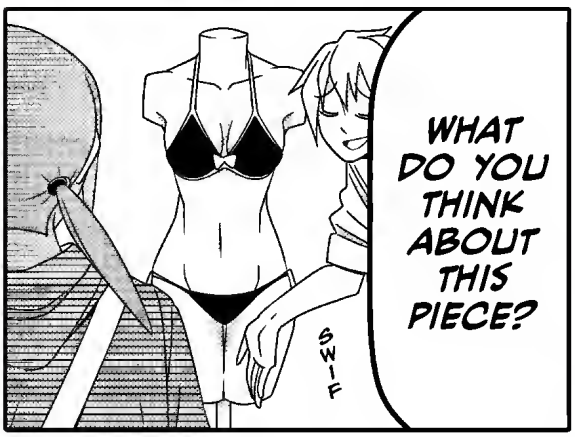

UM...
I WANT TO LOOK AROUND OTHER STORES, SO...
OH?
PARDON ME.

IF YOU'D LIKE...
...I CAN SUGGEST THE PERFECT SWIMSUIT FOR A GIRL IN LOVE.

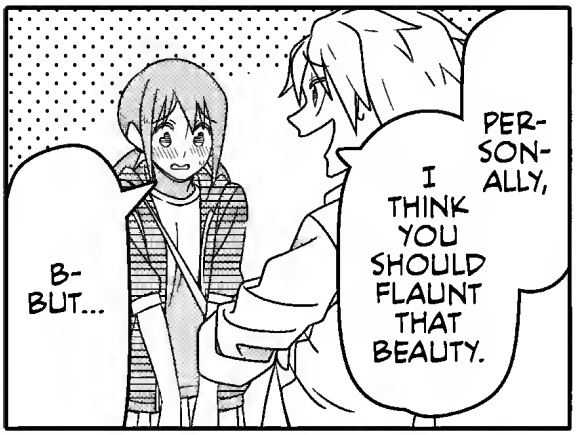

I'M NOT SURE IF OTHER STORES CAN PROVIDE FOR YOUR NEEDS.
HOW-EVER,
HUH...?

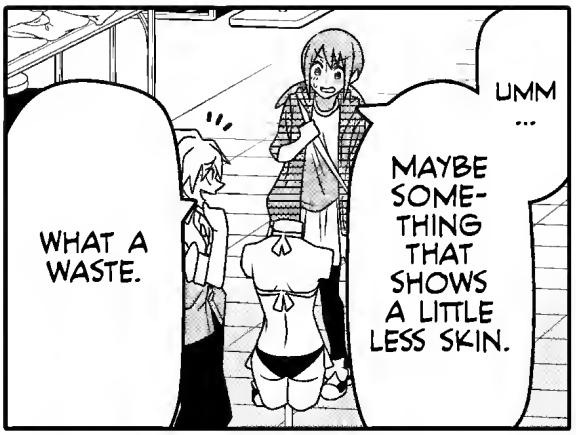
WELL, HE SOUNDS LIKE HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING.
IS HE A COORDI-NATOR OR SOMETHING?
MAYBE I SHOULD ASK HIM FOR ADVICE.

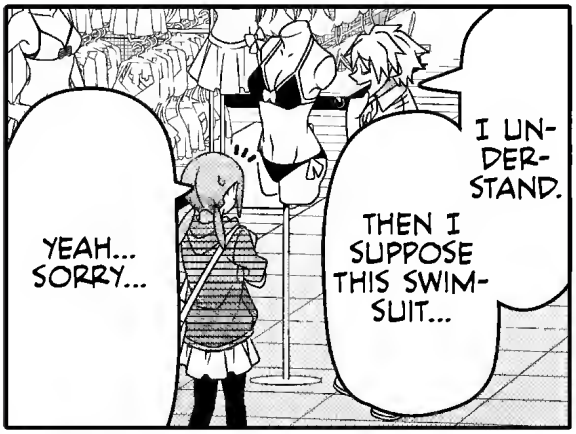
EXCUSE ME, MISS...
...BUT YOU'RE IN LOVE, AREN'T YOU?

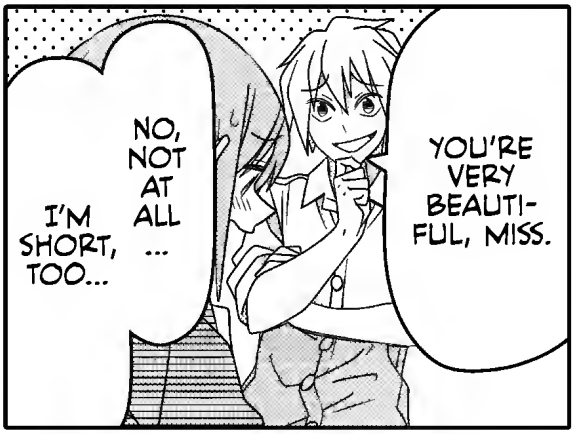

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS PIECE?
SWIF

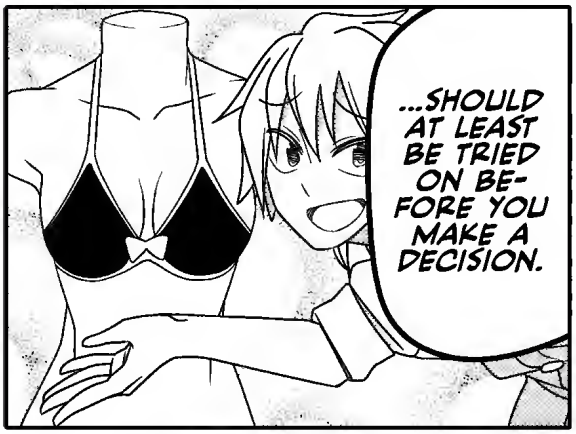
!

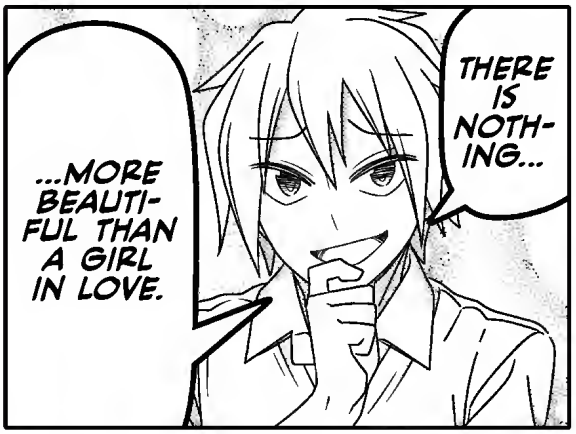

B-BUT...
PERSONALLY, I THINK YOU SHOULD FLAUNT THAT BEAUTY.

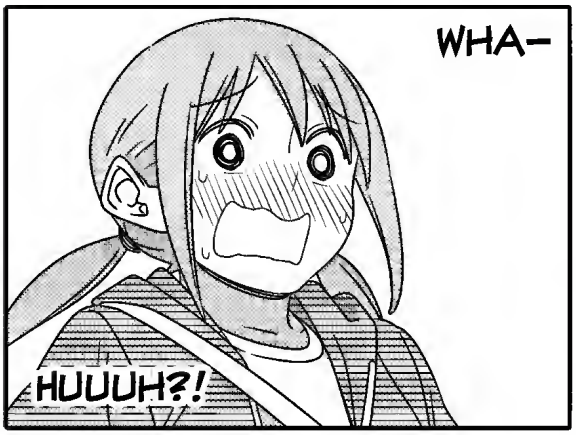

WHAT A WASTE.
UMM... MAYBE SOMETHING THAT SHOWS A LITTLE LESS SKIN.

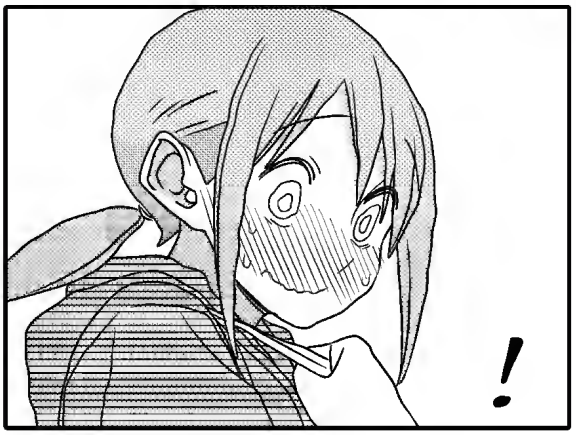

YEAH... SORRY...
I UNDERSTAND. THEN I SUPPOSE THIS SWIMSUIT...


I'M SHORT, TOO...
NO, NOT AT ALL...
YOU'RE VERY BEAUTIFUL, MISS.


...SHOULD AT LEAST BE TRIED ON BEFORE YOU MAKE A DECISION.


...MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN A GIRL IN LOVE.
THERE IS NOTHING...


WHA–
HUUUH?!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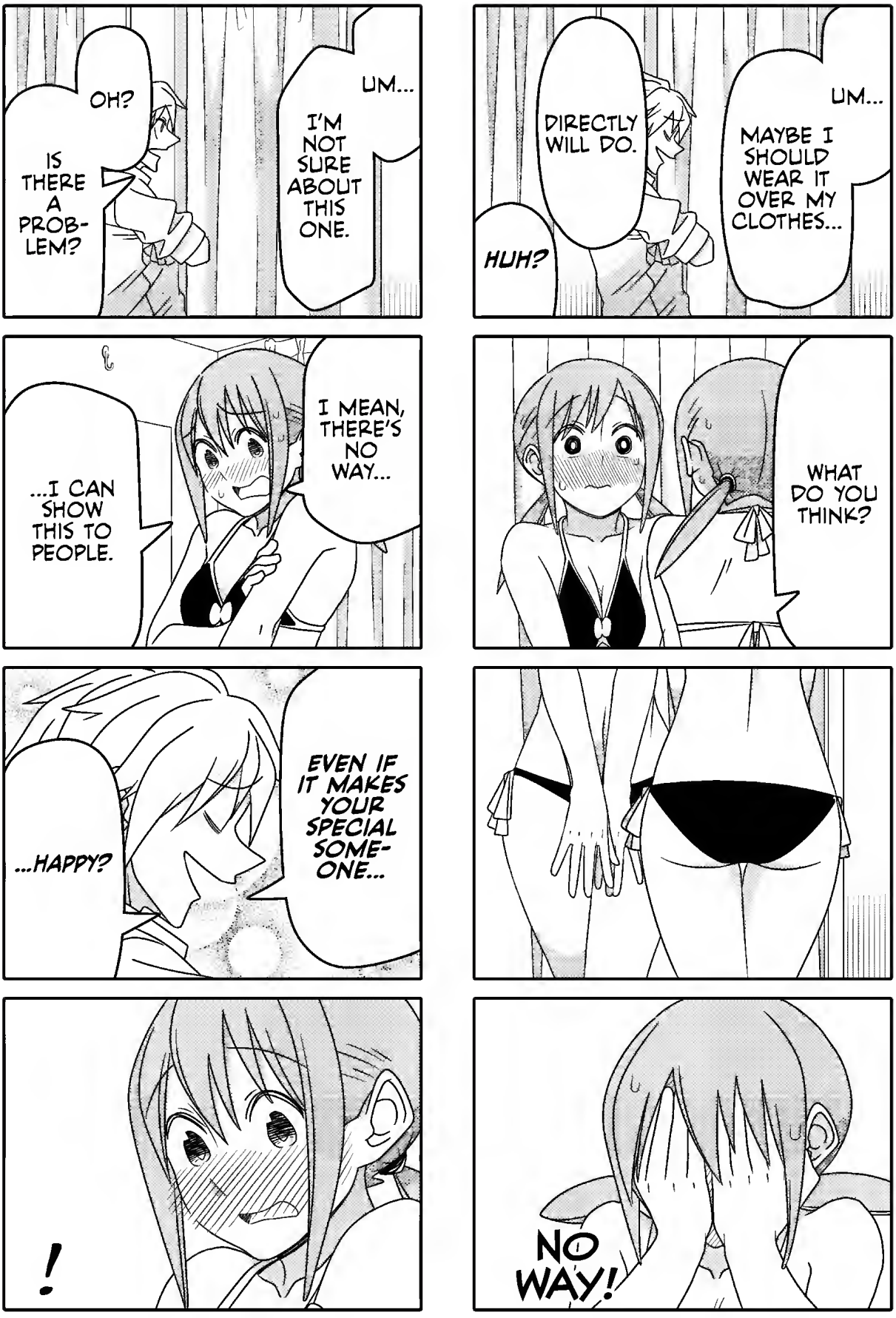
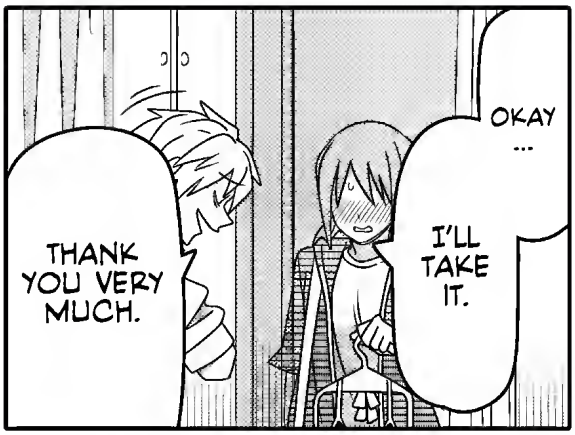
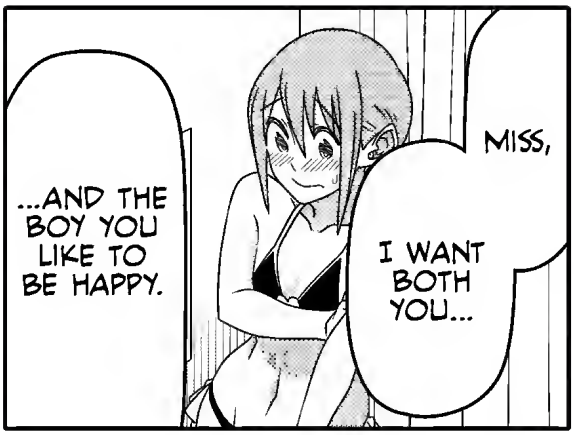
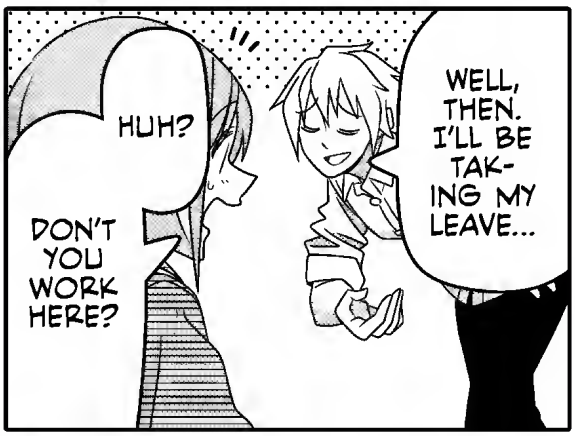

UM...
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THIS ONE.
OH?
IS THERE A PROB-LEM?
UM...
MAYBE I SHOULD WEAR IT OVER MY CLOTHES...
DIRECTLY WILL DO.
HUH?
I MEAN, THERE'S NO WAY...
...I CAN SHOW THIS TO PEOPLE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
EVEN IF IT MAKES YOUR SPECIAL SOME-ONE...
...HAPPY?
!
NO WAY!

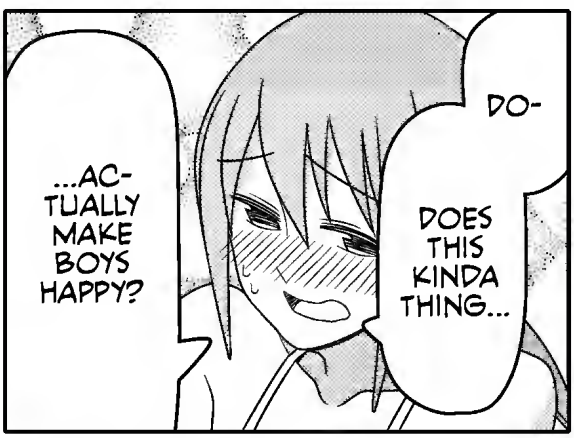

OKAY ...
I'LL TAKE IT.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

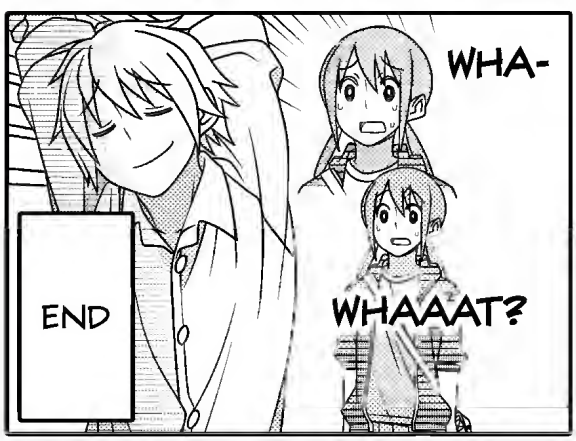

MISS,
I WANT BOTH YOU...
...AND THE BOY YOU LIKE TO BE HAPPY.


WELL, THEN. I'LL BE TAK- ING MY LEAVE...
HUH?
DON'T YOU WORK HERE?

SO, PLEASE,
USE YOUR SWIMSUIT...
...TO PUT A SMILE ON HIS FACE.

OH, NO.
I'M JUST A LOVE MASTER...
...WHO HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY.
☆


DO-
DOES THIS KINDA THING...
...AC- TUALLY MAKE BOYS HAPPY?


WHA-
WHAAAT?
END

WE ARE THE WORLD (ALL OF THEM.)

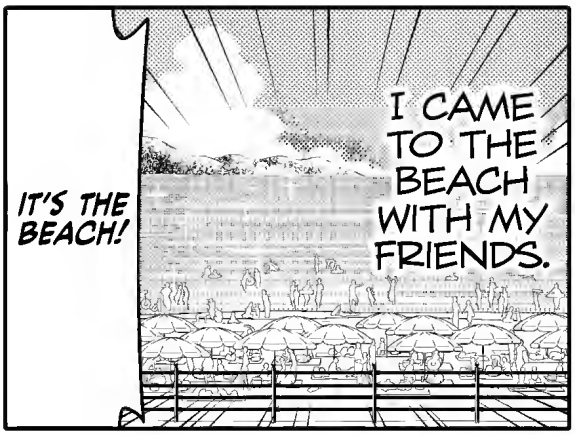
T S U r e × D U r e

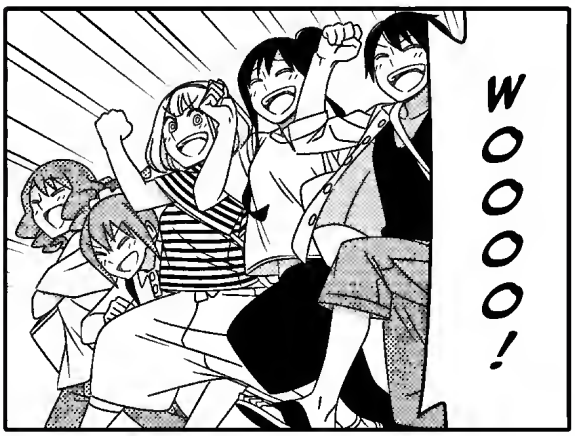
C H I L D R E N

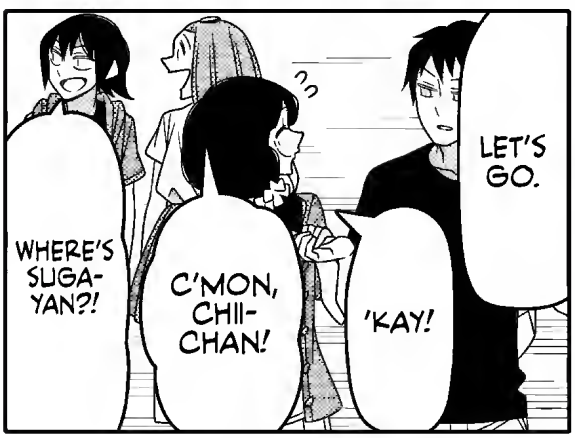
T S U ᒋ e × D U ᒋ e

C H I L D R E N

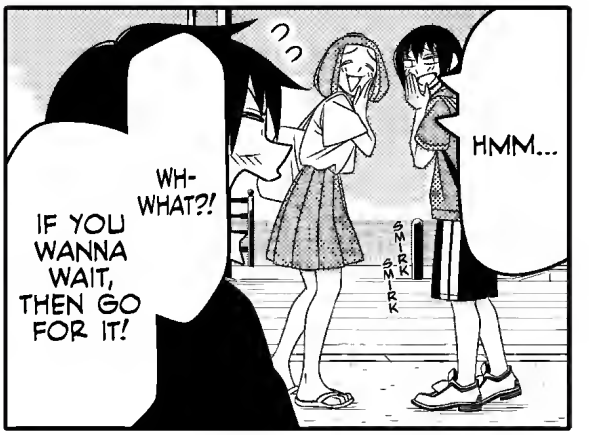
Beach (Part One)



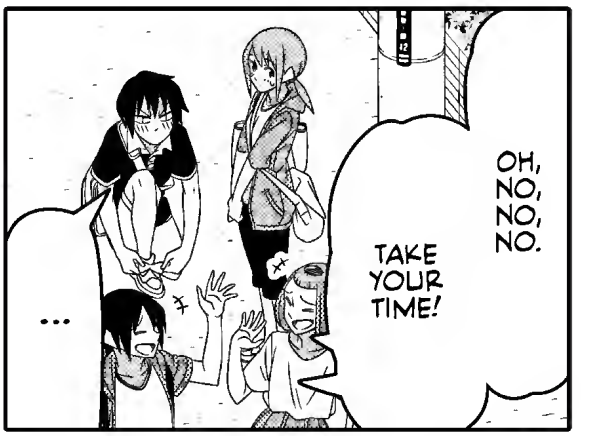




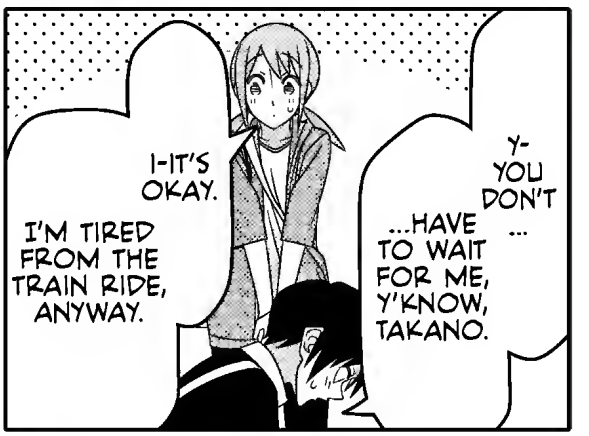
I WONDER HOW TAKANO...
...ACTUALLY FEELS ABOUT ME.

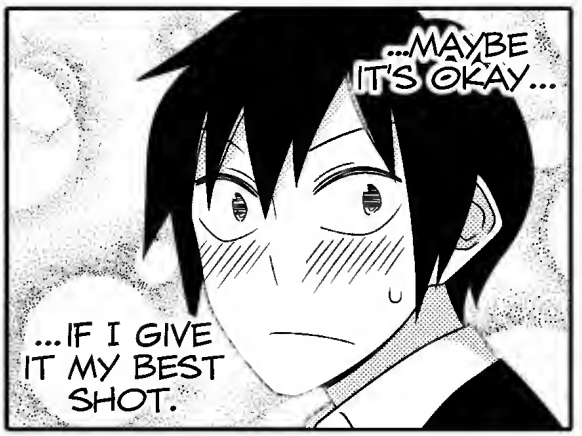

HMM...
SMIRK
SMIRK
WH-WHAT?!
IF YOU WANNA WAIT, THEN GO FOR IT!

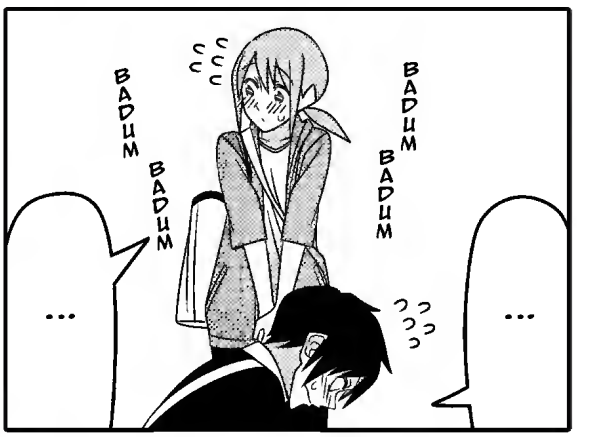
I THOUGHT IT WAS HOPELESS...
READY!
WANNA RUN AND CATCH UP?
...BUT FROM THE WAY SHE'S BEEN ACTING LATELY...


OH, NO, NO, NO.
TAKE YOUR TIME!
...

NO...
LET'S TAKE OUR TIME.


Y-YOU DON'T ...
...HAVE TO WAIT FOR ME, Y'KNOW, TAKANO.
I-IT'S OKAY.
I'M TIRED FROM THE TRAIN RIDE, ANYWAY.

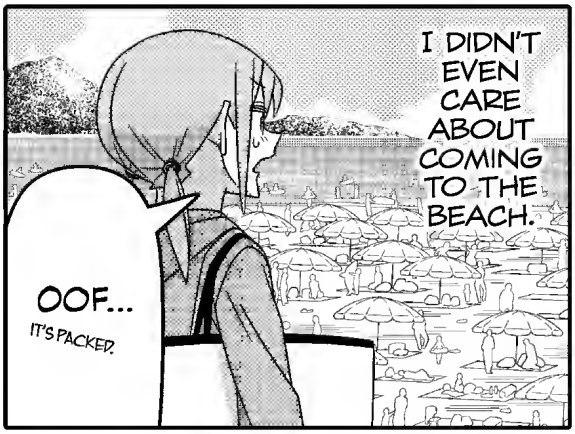

...MAYBE IT'S OKAY...
...IF I GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT.


BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
...
...

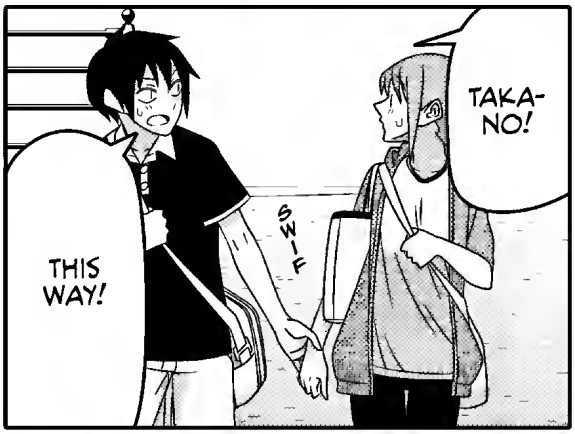
SUGA-YAN,
BET YOU'RE LOOKING FOR-WARD TO TAKANO'S SWIMSUIT.
HUH?
N-NOT REAL-LY...
SORRY, DID YOU BRING SUN-SCREEN?
OH! YEAH, I HAVE SOME.

WHAT ON EARTH...
...AM I DOING?

C'MON!
I'LL SNAP A PIC FOR YOU LATER!
HEY!
I DON'T SEE TAKANO LIKE—


I DIDN'T EVEN CARE ABOUT COMING TO THE BEACH.
OOF...
IT'S PACKED.

YOUR SKIN'S SO PRETTY!

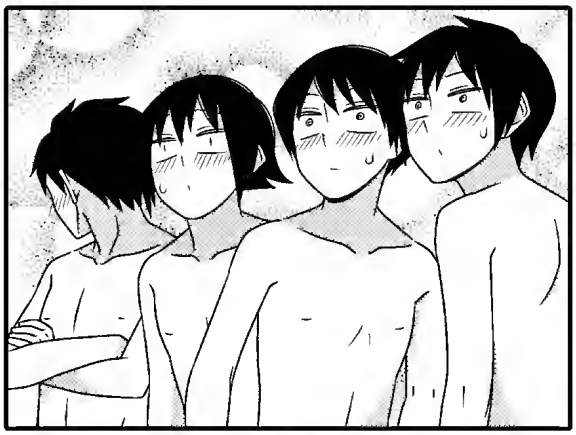

TAKA-NO!
THIS WAY!
SWIF

TURN

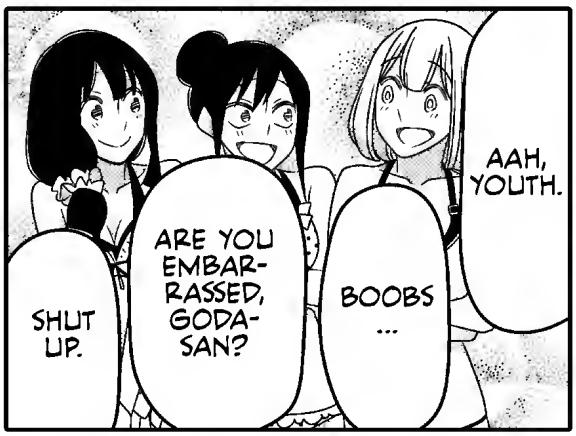
SERIOUSLY.
WHAT AM I DOING?

M-ME, TOO...
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME WEARING A BIKINI!
OH! YES, PLEASE!
WANT ME TO GET YOUR BACK?
PLEASE... I'M WAY MORE JEALOUS OF YOU, PATTY!
WHAT'S YOUR DIET LIKE?

I KNOW ...
YOU BOUGHT A SWIM-SUIT JUST FOR TODAY!
AREN'T YOU GONNA TAKE OFF YOUR JACKET, CHII-CHAN?

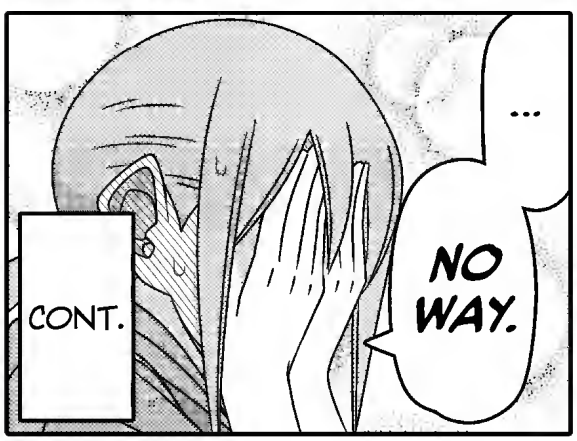


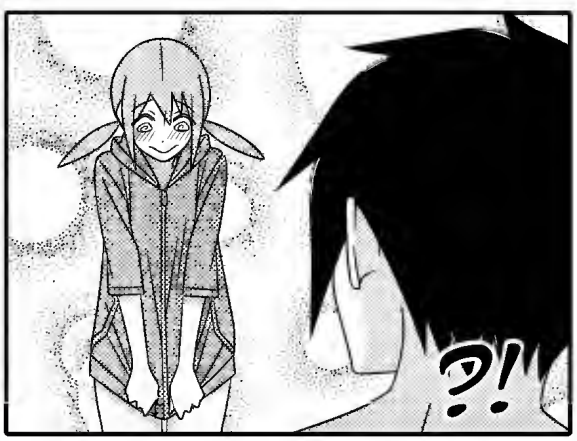
!
SUGA-WARA-KUN'S DYING TO SEE, TOO!
I MEAN, LOOK!


SHUT UP.
ARE YOU EMBAR-RASSED, GODA-SAN?
BOOBS ...
AAH, YOUTH.

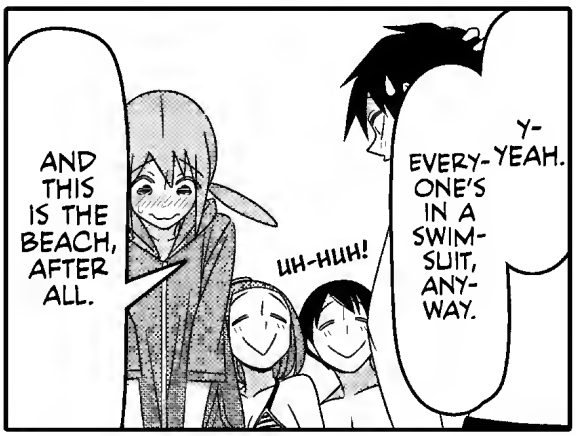
AH...

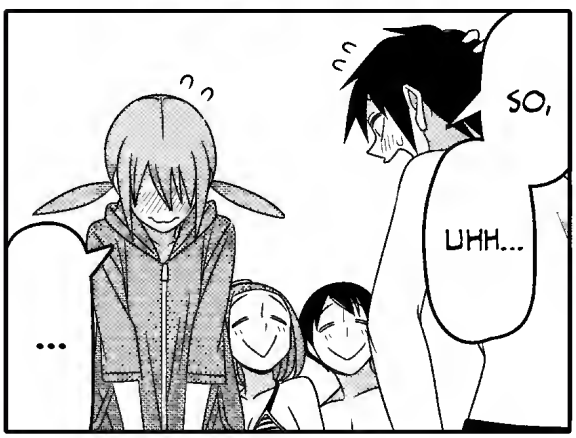
!
HUH? WHERE'S TAKANO?

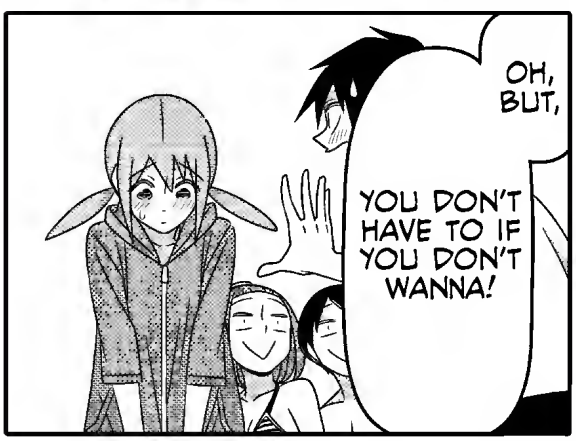

CONT.
NO WAY.
...

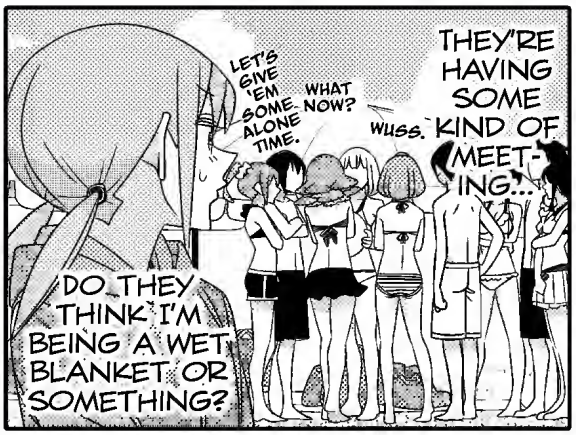

?!

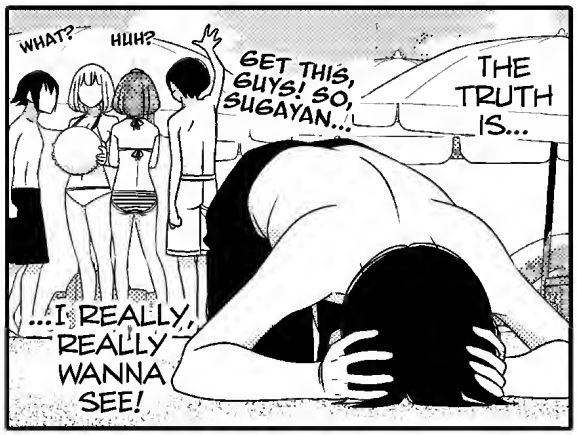
Beach (Part Two)







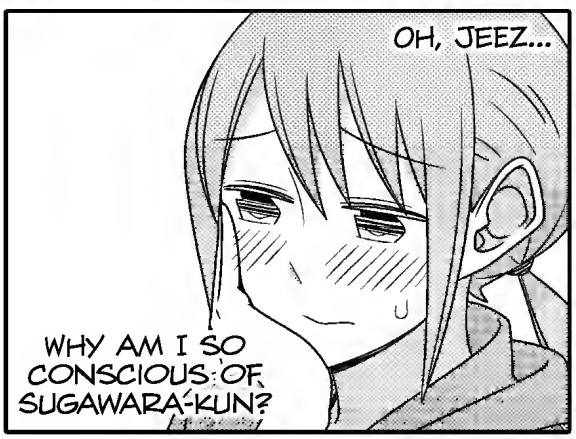

THEY'RE HAVING SOME KIND OF MEETING...
WUSS.
WHAT NOW?
LET'S GIVE 'EM SOME ALONE TIME.
DO THEY THINK I'M BEING A WET BLANKET OR SOMETHING?


WHAT?
HUH?
GET THIS, GUYS! SO, SUGAYAN...
THE TRUTH IS...
...I REALLY, REALLY WANNA SEE!

I GUESS THEY'RE RIGHT.
I CAME ALL THE WAY TO THE BEACH, AFTER ALL.
THERE'S NO POINT IN BEING EMBARRASSED...

BUT I MIGHT CREEP HER OUT...
...IF I'M TOO OBVIOUS.

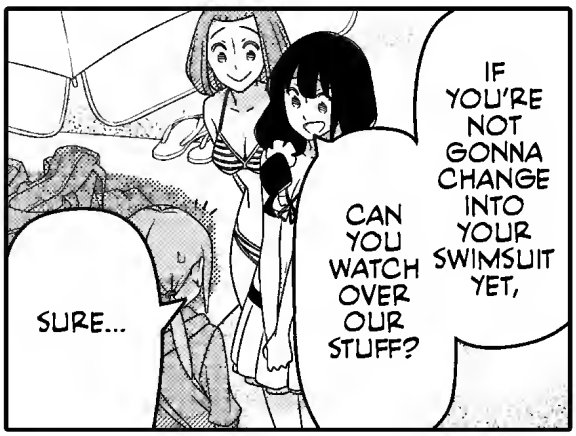
LET'S TAKE OUR TIME.

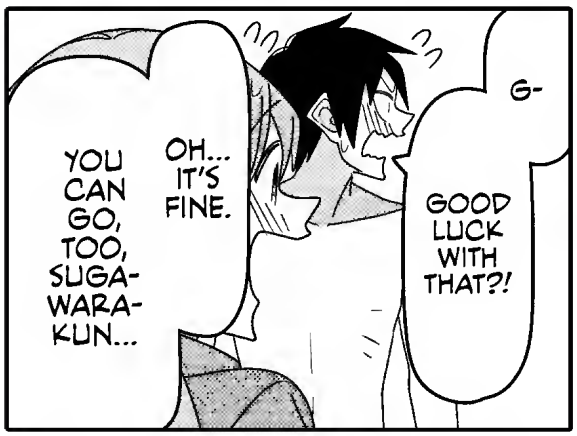

OH, JEEZ...
WHY AM I SO CONSCIOUS OF SUGAWARA-KUN?

THEN AGAIN...
...IF I STILL HAVE A CHANCE...

CHII-CHAN,
WE'RE GONNA HOP IN THE WATER.
OH... I...

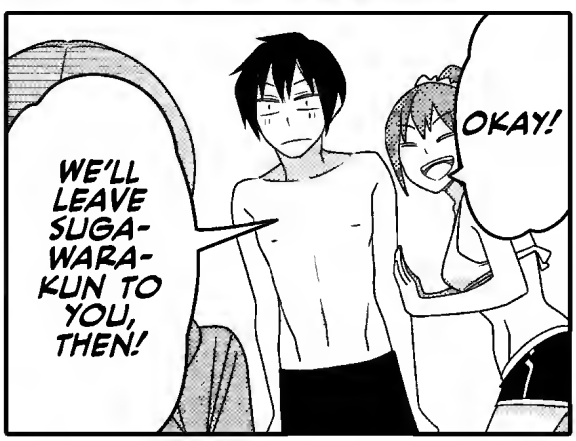
HUH?! WHAT'S WITH THAT?
YOU DON'T WANNA MAKE HER WATCH ALL BY HERSELF, DO YOU?
GOOD LUCK, YOU TWO!

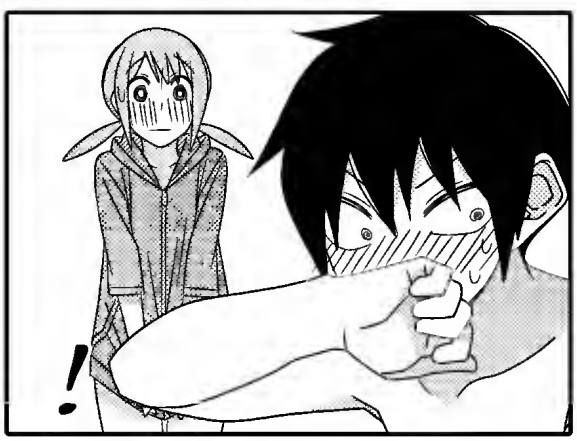

IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA CHANGE INTO YOUR SWIMSUIT YET,
CAN YOU WATCH OVER OUR STUFF?
SURE...


G-
GOOD LUCK WITH THAT?!
OH... IT'S FINE.
YOU CAN GO, TOO, SUGA-WARA-KUN...

DON'T MIND ME.
I'LL BE FINE BY MYSELF, SO...

I...
I CAN'T JUST GO...
...AND LEAVE YOU HERE ALL ALONE, TAKANO!


OKAY!
WE'LL LEAVE SUGA-WARA-KUN TO YOU, THEN!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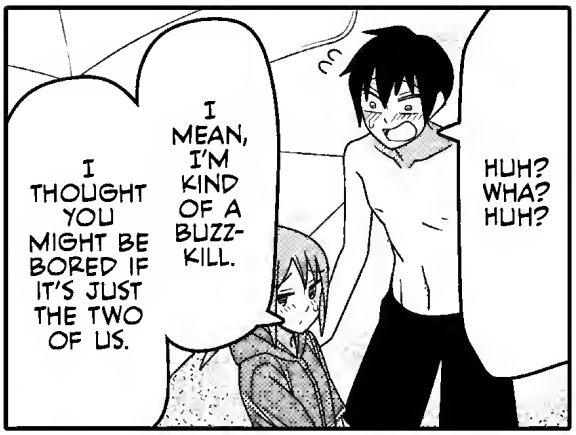

HUH? WHA? HUH?
I MEAN, I'M KIND OF A BUZZ-KILL.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE BORED IF IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.

OH, BUT...
...IF BEING ALONE WITH ME IS TOO AWK-WARD, THEN...
N-NO, NOT AT ALL!
I'M FINE...

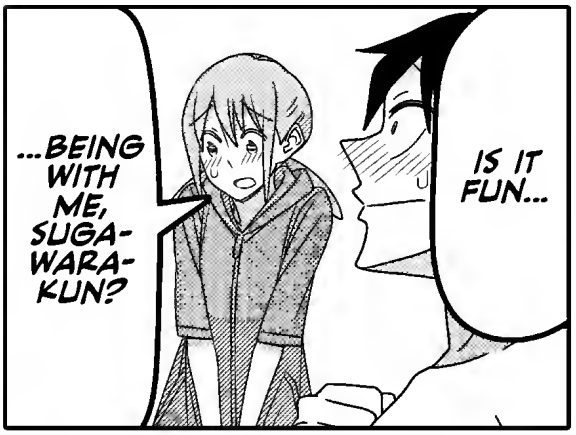
NUH-UH! NO WAY!
I AC-TUALLY WANTED TO TALK TO YOU MORE.
HUH?

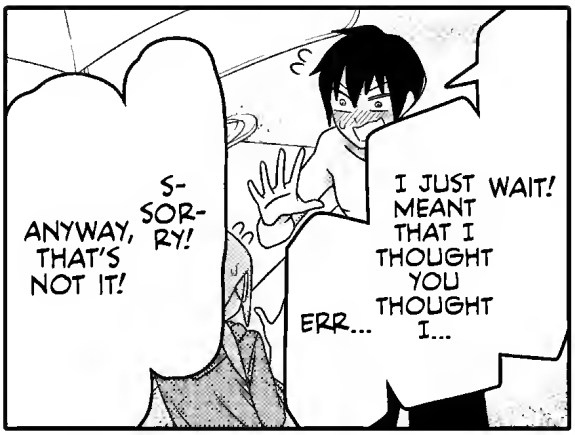
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL...
...SHE REALLY DOES SEEM COOL WITH IT.

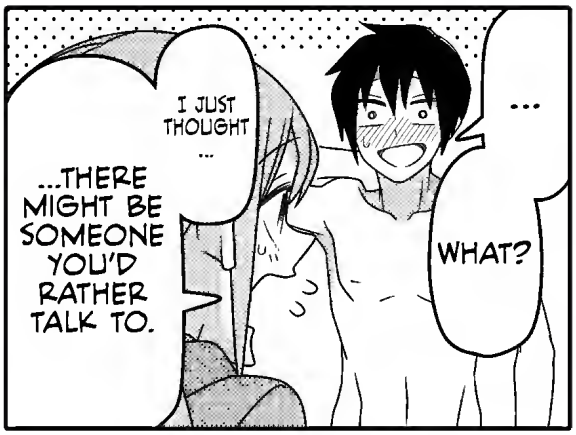
OKAY, THIS TIME FOR SURE!
L-LIKE ABOUT LOVE...

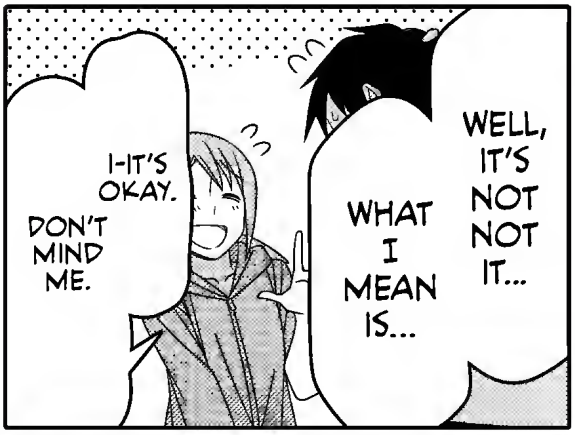
A-ALL RIGHT!
SFFFFF
TIME TO FIND OUT...
...HOW TAKANO FEELS ABOUT ME!

IS THERE...
...ANYONE YOU LIKE, SUGA-WARA-KUN?


IS IT FUN...
...BEING WITH ME, SUGA-WARA-KUN?

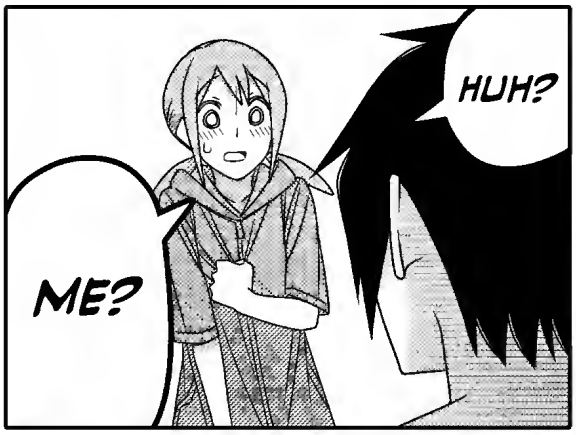

S-SORRY!
ANYWAY, THAT'S NOT IT!
I JUST MEANT THAT I THOUGHT YOU THOUGHT I...
WAIT!
ERR...


I JUST THOUGHT ...
...THERE MIGHT BE SOMEONE YOU'D RATHER TALK TO.
...
WHAT?


I-IT'S OKAY. DON'T MIND ME.
WELL, IT'S NOT NOT IT...
WHAT I MEAN IS...

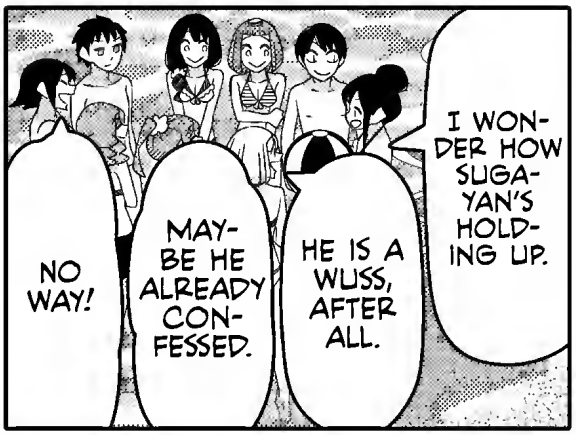
NAH... YOU'RE THE ONE...
THAT'S WHAT I WANNA KNOW!

...YOU'RE CUTE, TAKANO.
I THINK...

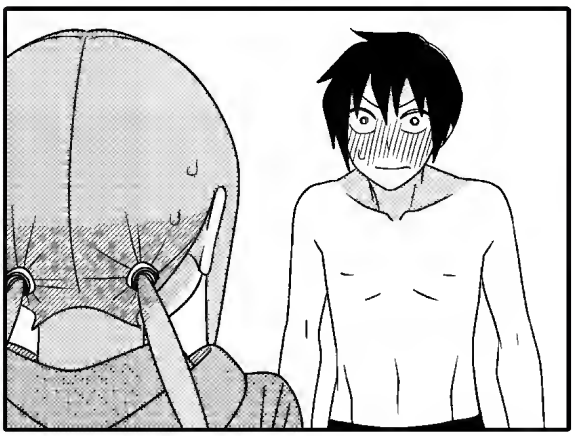

HUH?
ME?

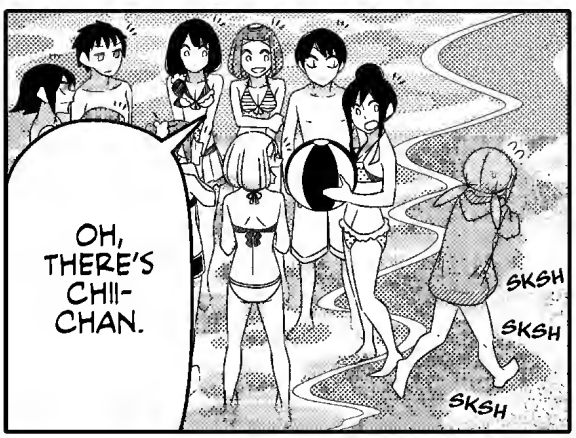
...WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT ME!
AND I WAS WONDERING...

!

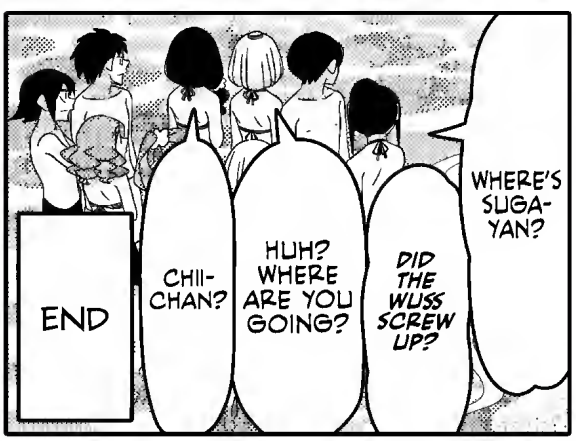

I WONDER HOW SUGA-YAN'S HOLDING UP.
HE IS A WUSS, AFTER ALL.
MAYBE HE ALREADY CONFESSED.
NO WAY!

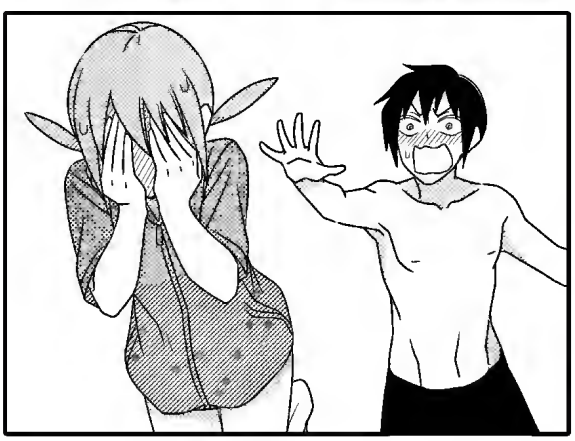
AT ANY RATE, IT SHOULDN'T GET TOO AWKWARD, RIGHT?
HE IS A WUSS, AFTER ALL.
WHY'D YOU LEAVE THEM ALONE?
HUH?



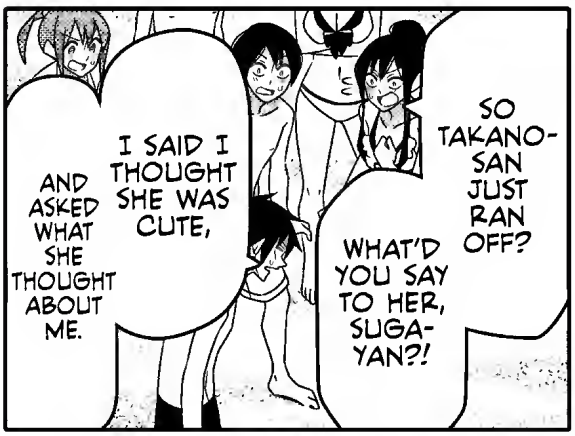

OH, THERE'S CHII-CHAN.
SKSH
SKSH
SKSH

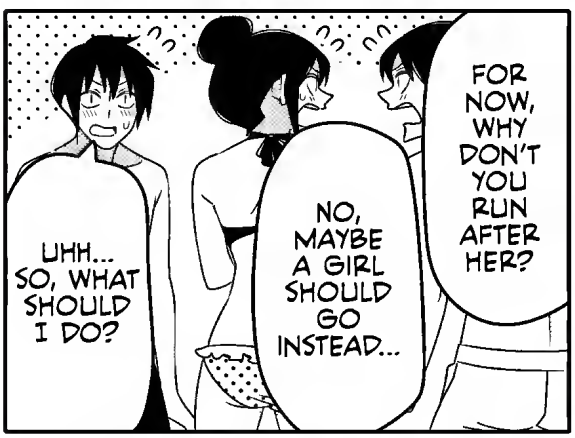
NO-
NOT MUCH.

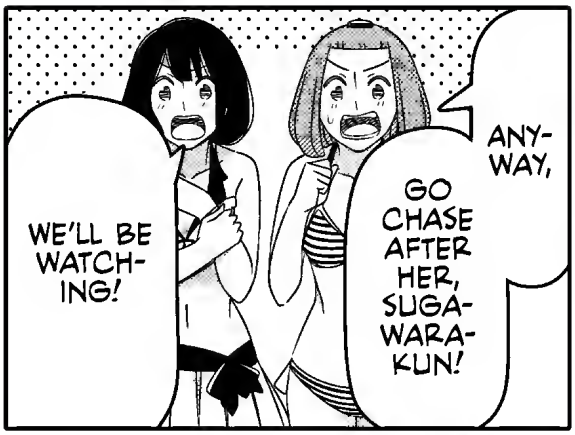

WHERE'S SUGA-YAN?
DID THE WUSS SCREW UP?
HUH? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
CHII-CHAN?
END



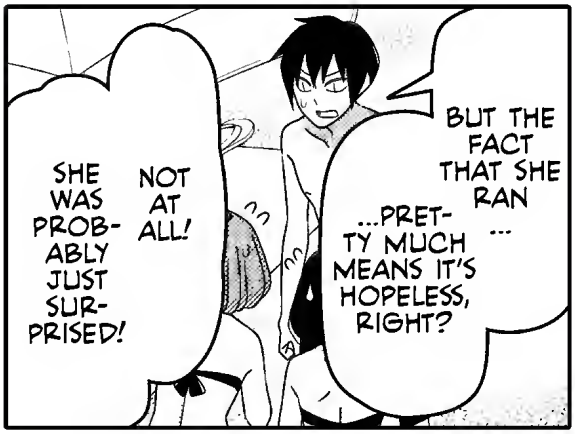
Beach (Part Three)

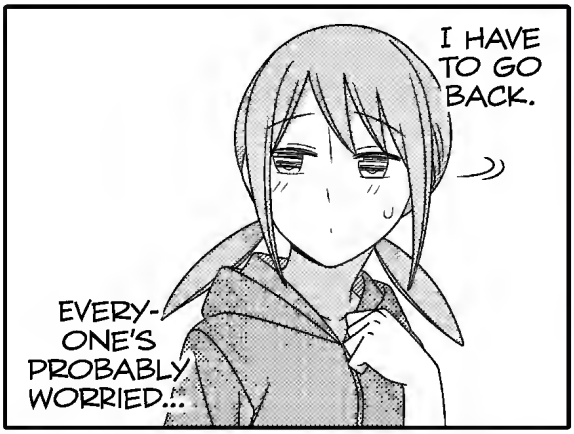


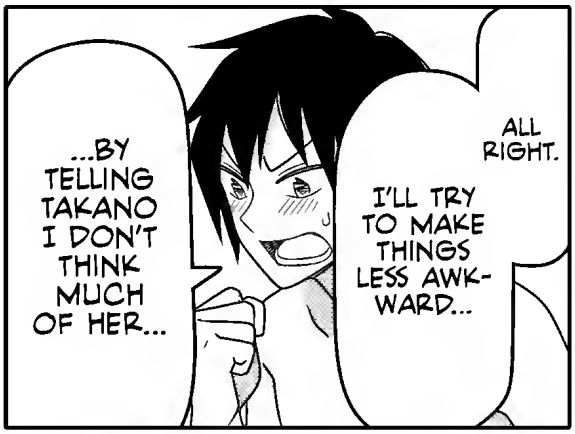


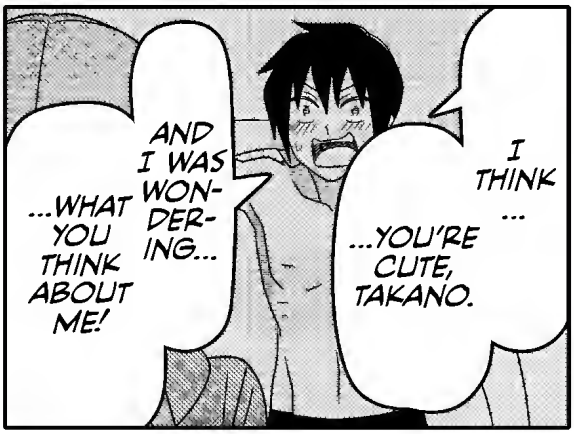

ANY-WAY,
GO CHASE AFTER HER, SUGA-WARA-KUN!
WE'LL BE WATCH-ING!

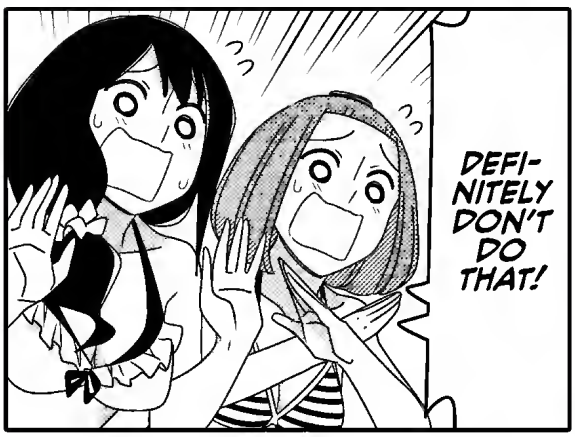
I'M SO STUPID...
WHY'D I RUN AWAY?
HOW COULD I GET EMBAR-RASSED OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT?


BUT THE FACT THAT SHE RAN ...
...PRET-TY MUCH MEANS IT'S HOPELESS, RIGHT?
NOT AT ALL!
SHE WAS PROB-ABLY JUST SUR-PRISED!

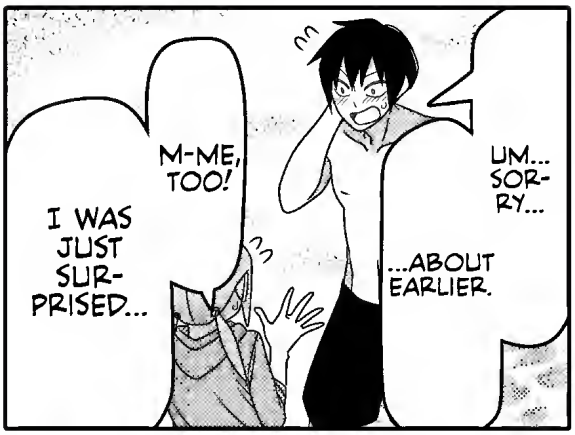

I HAVE TO GO BACK.
EVERY-ONE'S PROBABLY WORRIED...

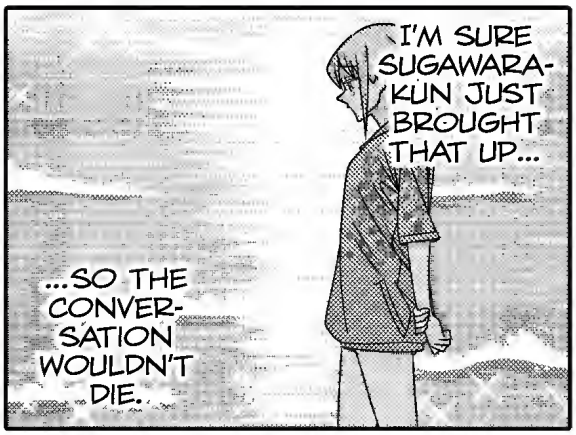

ALL RIGHT.
I'LL TRY TO MAKE THINGS LESS AWK-WARD...
...BY TELLING TAKANO I DON'T THINK MUCH OF HER...

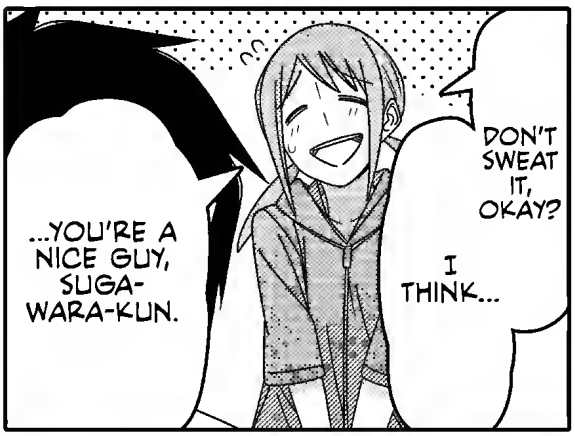

I THINK ...
...YOU'RE CUTE, TAKANO.
AND I WAS WON-DER-ING...
...WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT ME!

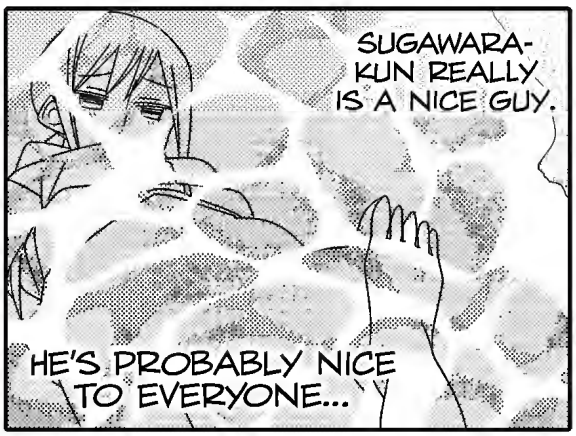

DEFI-NITELY DON'T DO THAT!

NOT MUCH.
I JUST THINK...
...SUGA-WARA-KUN IS NICE.

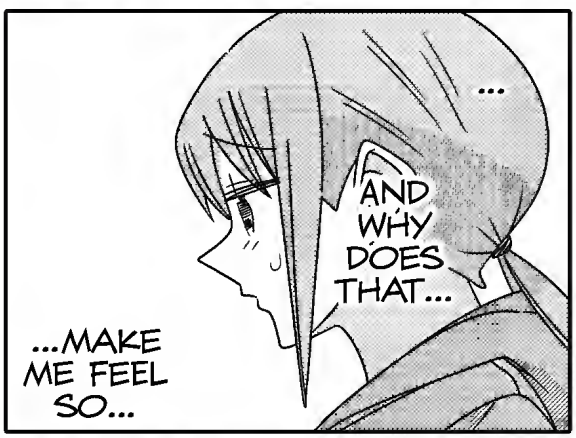

UM... SORRY...
...ABOUT EARLIER.
M-ME, TOO!
I WAS JUST SURPRISED...


I'M SURE SUGAWARA-KUN JUST BROUGHT THAT UP...
...SO THE CONVERSATION WOULDN'T DIE.


DON'T SWEAT IT, OKAY?
I THINK...
...YOU'RE A NICE GUY, SUGAWARA-KUN.


SUGAWARA-KUN REALLY IS A NICE GUY.
HE'S PROBABLY NICE TO EVERYONE...

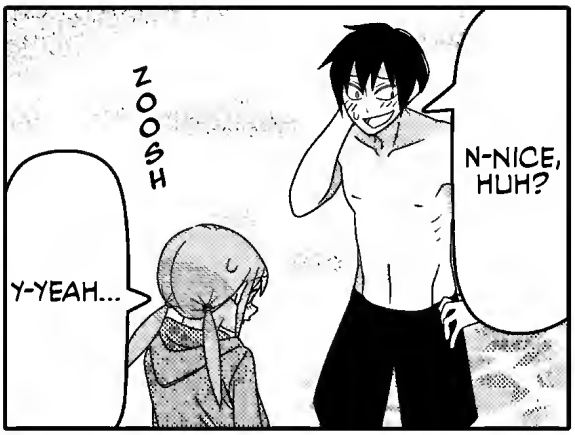
!

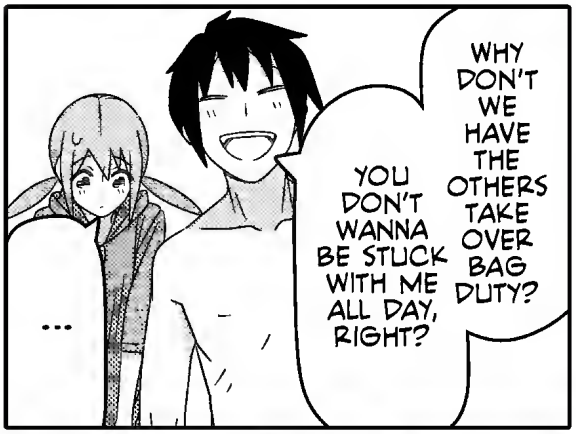

...
AND WHY DOES THAT...
...MAKE ME FEEL SO...

?!

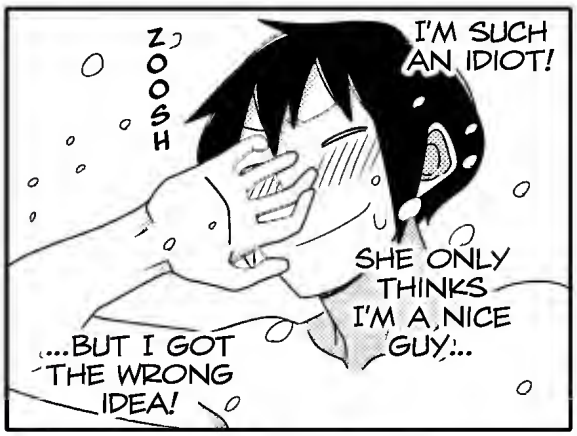
TA-
TAKA-NO!

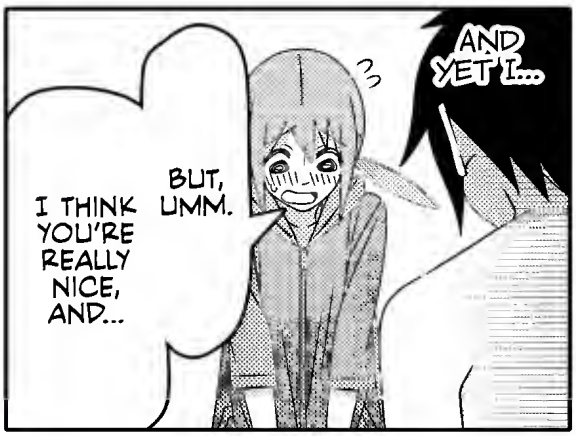
WE CLEARED UP A LOT,
AND EV-ERYONE'S PROBABLY WORRIED.
ZOOSH
Y-YEAH...


N-NICE, HUH?
ZOOSH
Y-YEAH...


WHY DON'T WE HAVE THE OTHERS TAKE OVER BAG DUTY?
YOU DON'T WANNA BE STUCK WITH ME ALL DAY, RIGHT?
...

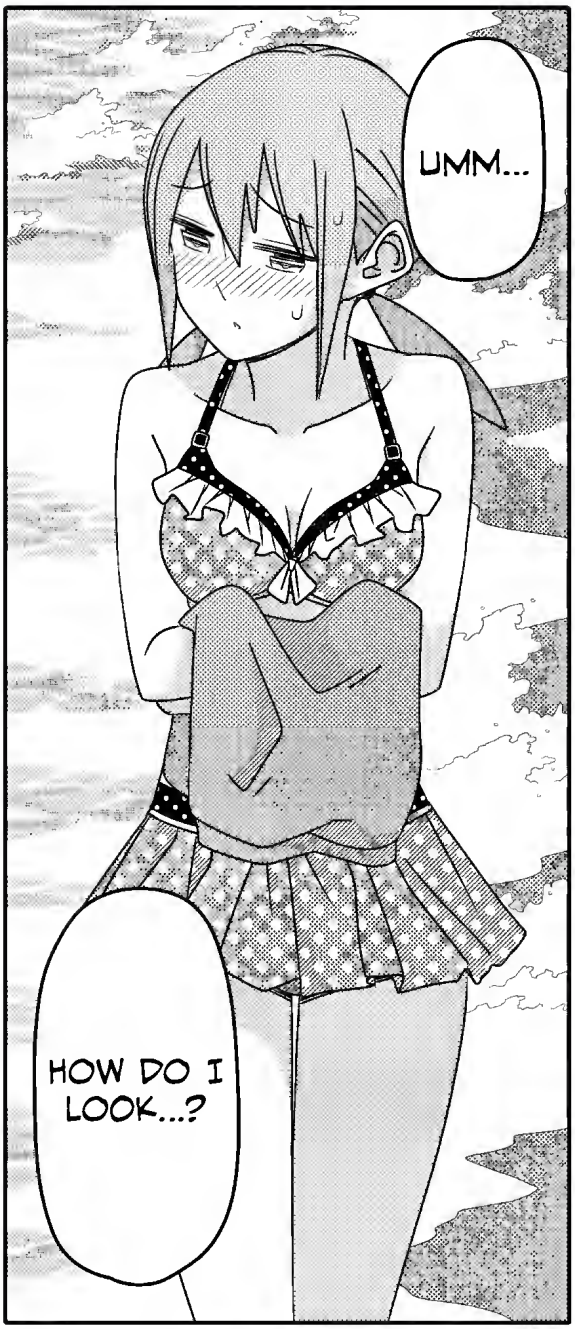
MAKES SENSE.
TAKANO'S ALWAYS JUST SEEN ME...
...AS A "NICE GUY," NOTHING MORE.

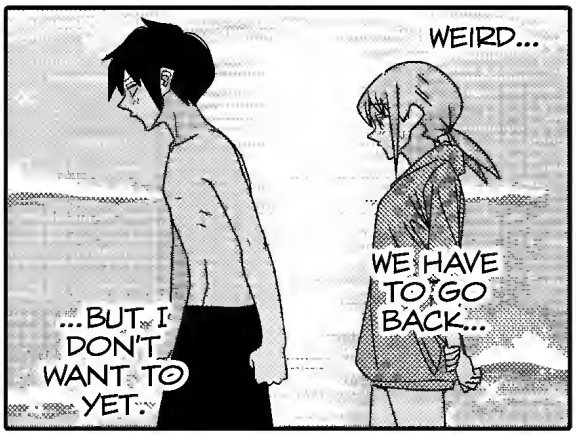

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
ZOOSH
SHE ONLY THINKS I'M A NICE GUY...
...BUT I GOT THE WRONG IDEA!

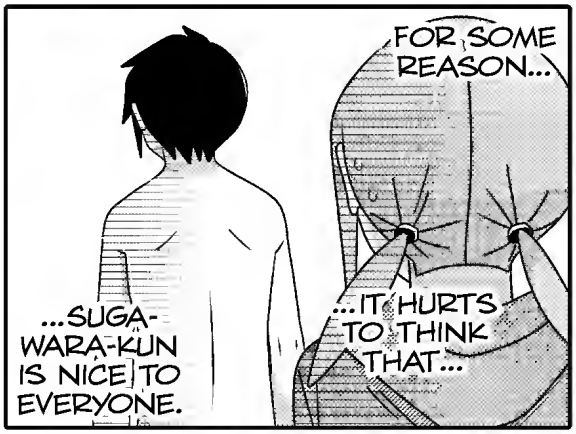

AND YET I...
BUT, UMM.
I THINK YOU'RE REALLY NICE, AND...

MAN...
I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME TO THE BEACH!

ALL RIGHT.
WHY DON'T WE HEAD BACK?


UMM...
HOW DO I LOOK...?

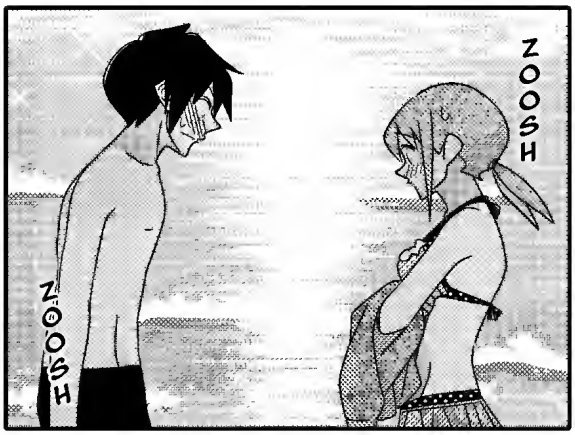

WEIRD...
WE HAVE TO GO BACK...
...BUT I DON'T WANT TO YET.

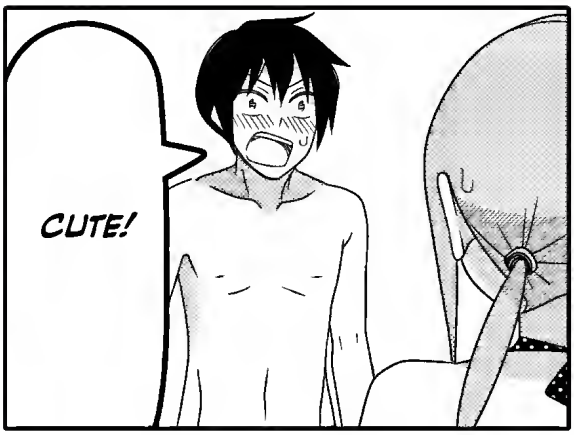

FOR SOME REASON...
...IT HURTS TO THINK THAT...
...SUGAWARA-KUN IS NICE TO EVERYONE.

I DON'T KNOW WHY, AND IT SEEMS SO STUPID...
...BUT MAYBE I ACTUALLY...

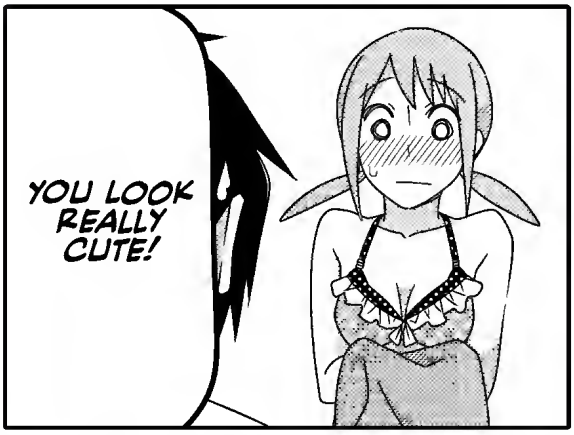
I ENDED UP PICKING ONE OUT MYSELF ...
...SINCE I COULDN'T ASK ANYONE AT THE STORE FOR ADVICE...
...SO IT MIGHT NOT SUIT ME AT ALL, BUT,
UMM ...

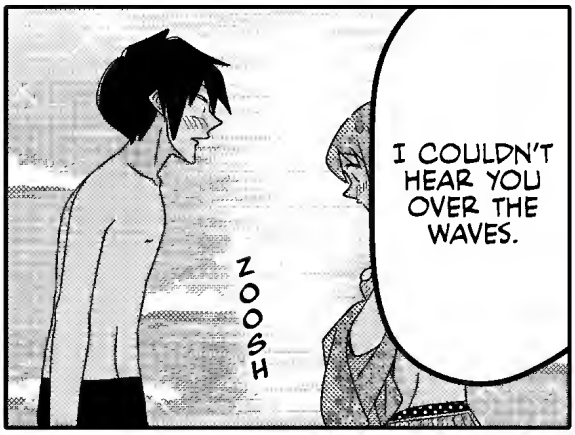
SUGAWARA-KUN.


ZOOSH
ZOOSH

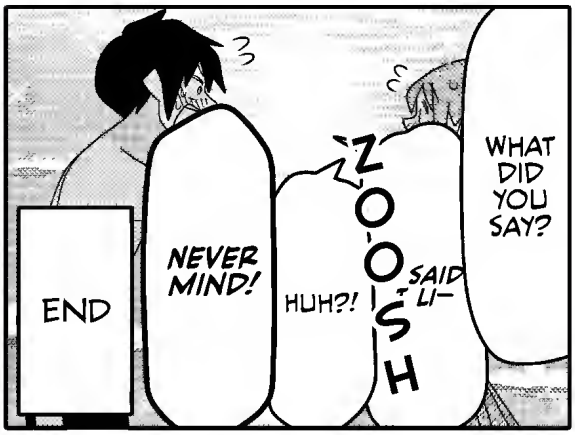

CUTE!

...SORRY.
!


YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE!

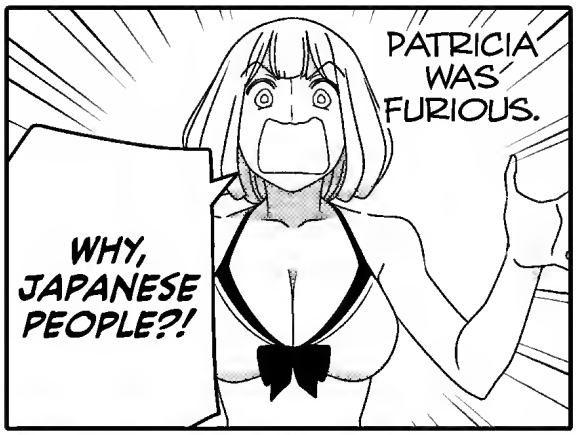

I COULDN'T HEAR YOU OVER THE WAVES.
ZOOSH

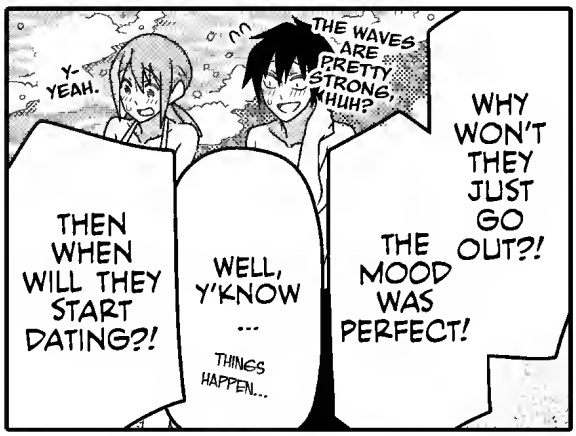
I LIKE YOU!
I... TAKA-NO,

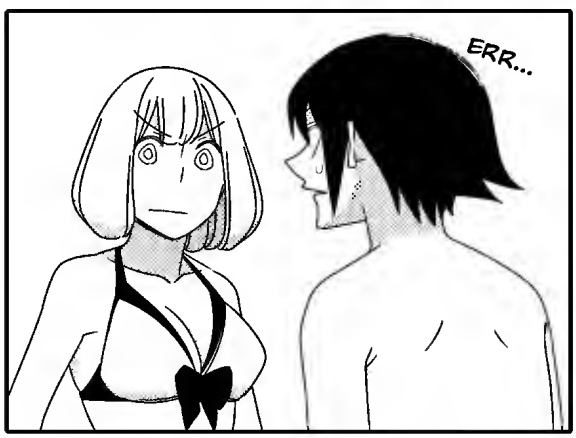

END
NEVER MIND!
HUH?!
ZOOSH
I SAID LI—
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

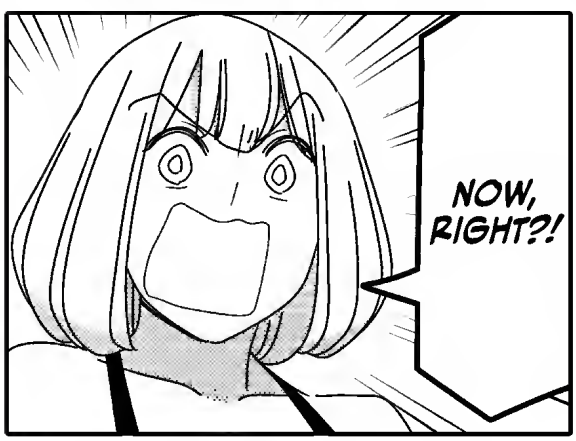
ZOOSH

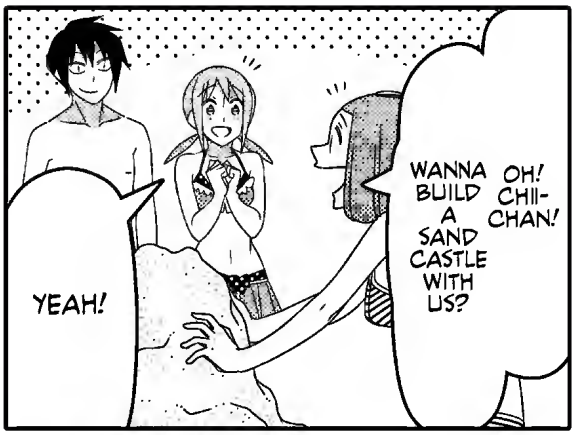
Beach (Part Four)

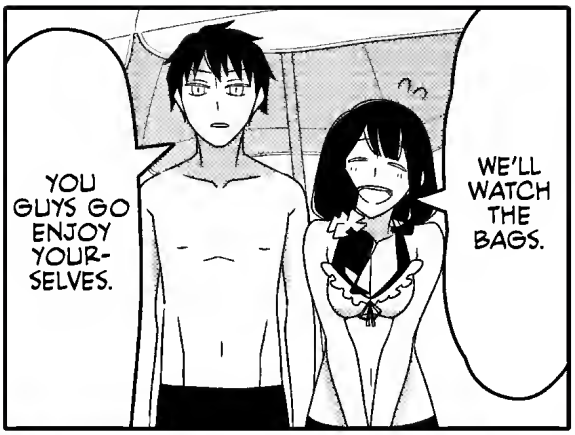


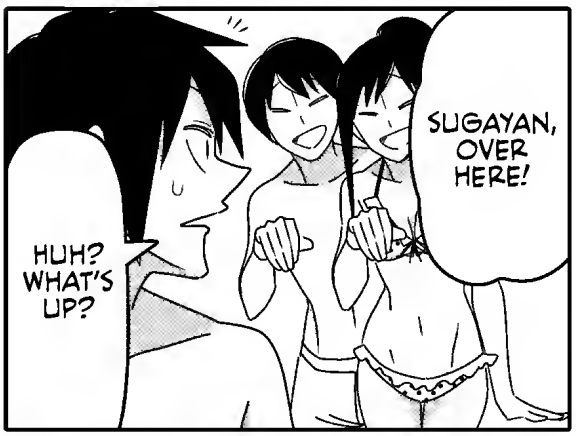


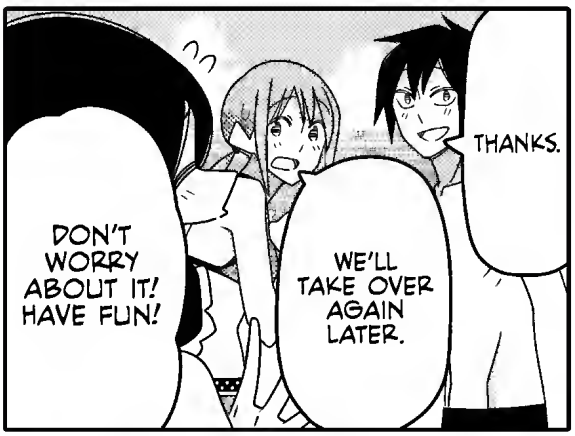




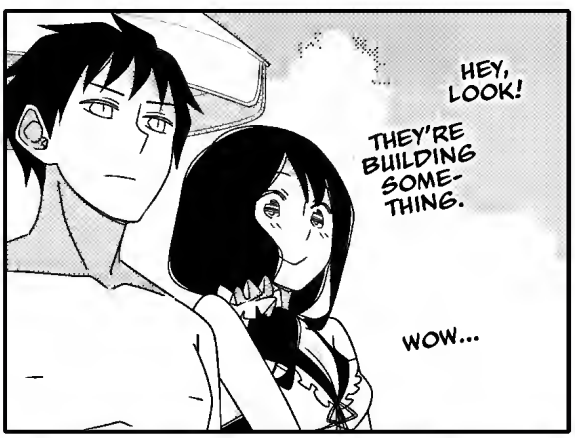

WANNA BUILD A SAND CASTLE WITH US?
OH! CHII-CHAN!
YEAH!


YOU GUYS GO ENJOY YOUR-SELVES.
WE'LL WATCH THE BAGS.


SUGAYAN, OVER HERE!
HUH? WHAT'S UP?

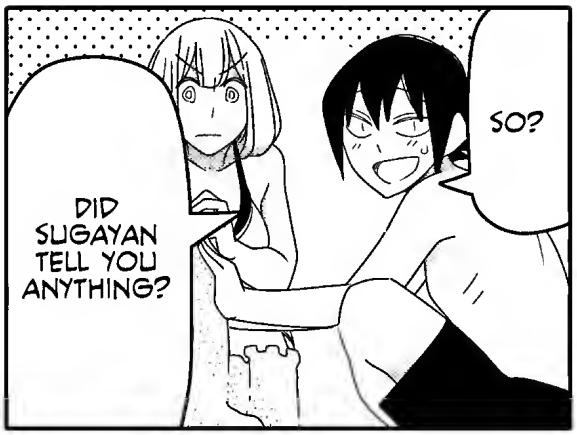

THANKS.
WE'LL TAKE OVER AGAIN LATER.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! HAVE FUN!

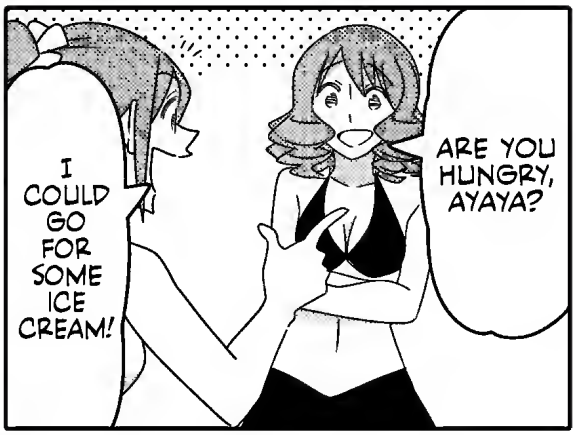
TELL US HOW THINGS WENT...
...WITH TAKANO-SAN!

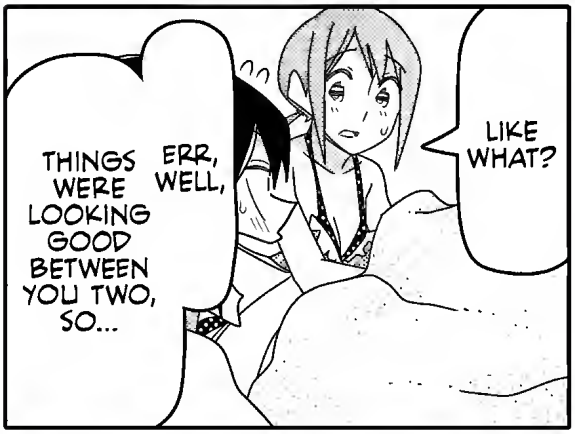

HEY, LOOK!
THEY'RE BUILDING SOME-THING.
WOW...

...
HELL NO!

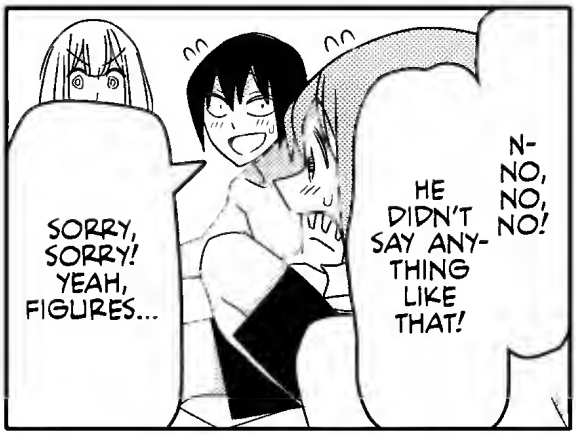
ALONE AT LAST, HUH?

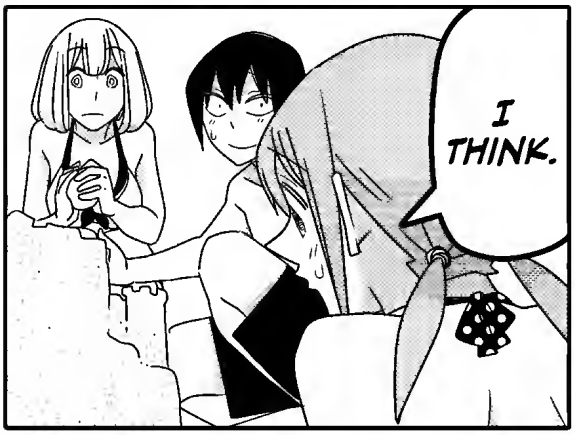

SO?
DID SUGAYAN TELL YOU ANYTHING?

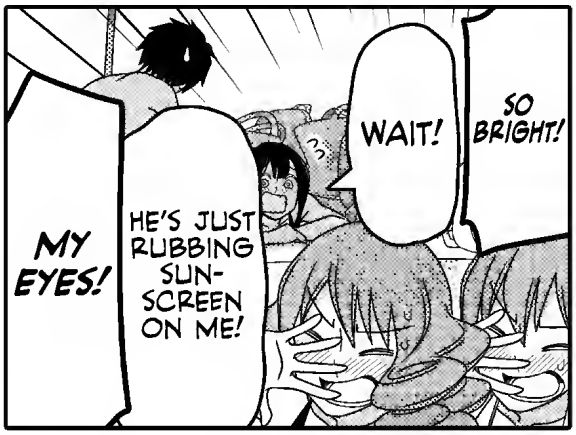

ARE YOU HUNGRY, AYAYA?
I COULD GO FOR SOME ICE CREAM!

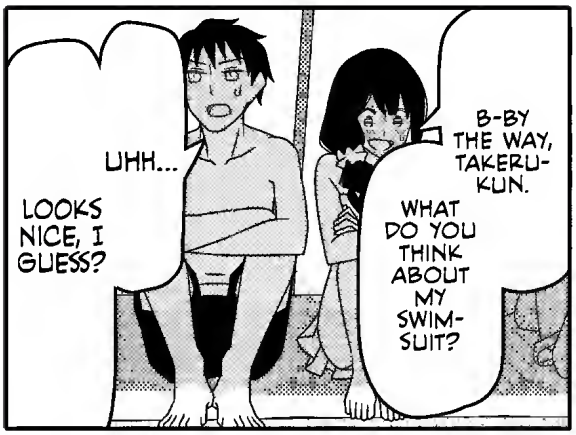

LIKE WHAT?
ERR, WELL, THINGS WERE LOOKING GOOD BETWEEN YOU TWO, SO...

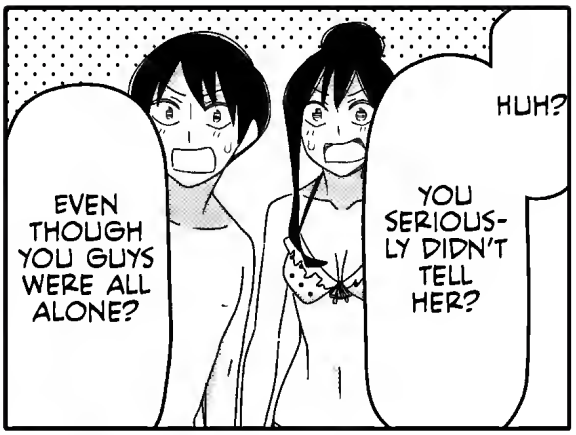
LET'S GET OUR WALLETS!
I SAW A STAND THAT WAS SELLING SQUID INK FLAVOR!


N-NO, NO, NO! HE DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING LIKE THAT!
SORRY, SORRY! YEAH, FIGURES...

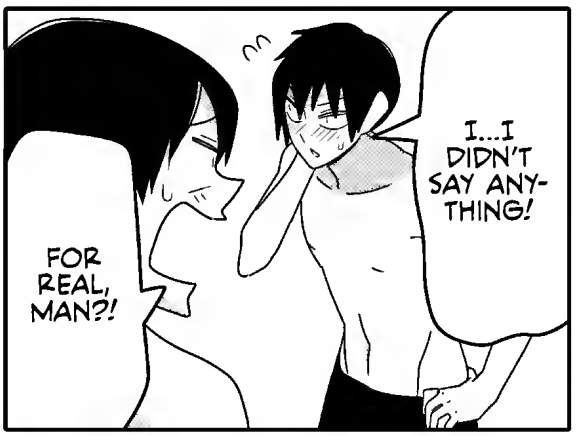

I THINK.


SO BRIGHT!
WAIT!
HE'S JUST RUBBING SUN-SCREEN ON ME!
MY EYES!


B-BY THE WAY, TAKERU-KUN.
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MY SWIM-SUIT?
UHH...
LOOKS NICE, I GUESS?

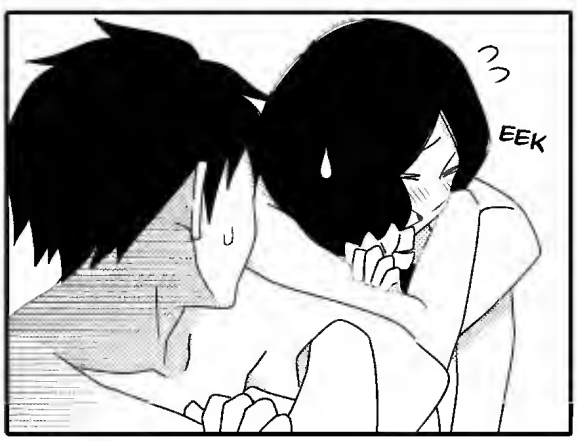

HUH?
YOU SERIOUS-LY DIDN'T TELL HER?
EVEN THOUGH YOU GUYS WERE ALL ALONE?

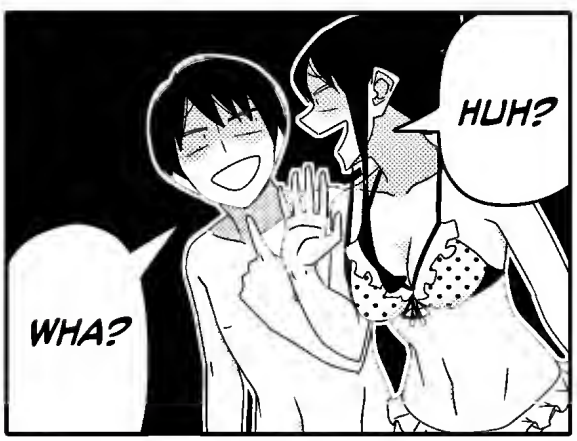
COME ON!
YOU DIDN'T EVEN GET A GOOD LOOK AT IT, DID YOU?
I DID.
YEAH, RIGHT! LOOK!


I...I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING!
FOR REAL, MAN?!

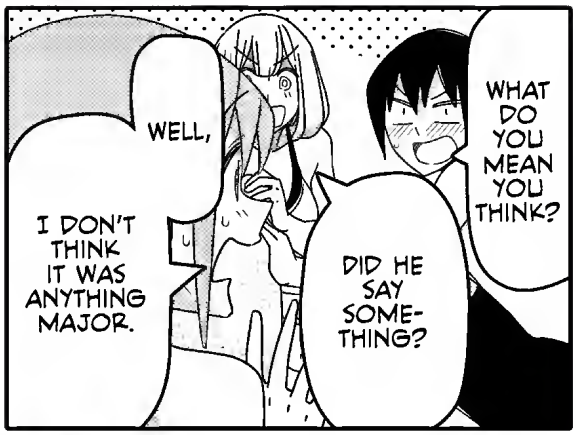
...
STARE

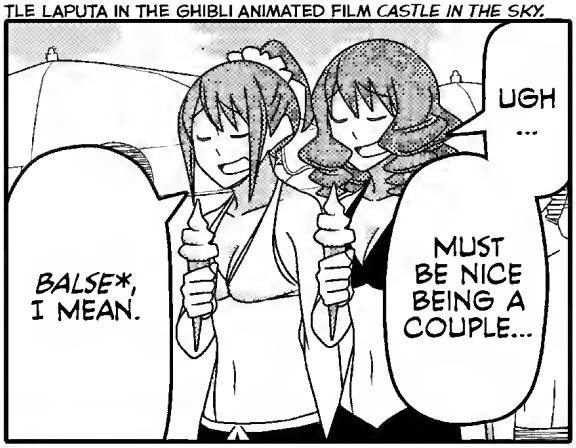
WELL, DON'T SWEAT IT.
CHIAKI'S A CHICKEN, TOO.
WHAT? I THOUGHT I WAS PRETTY MANLY.

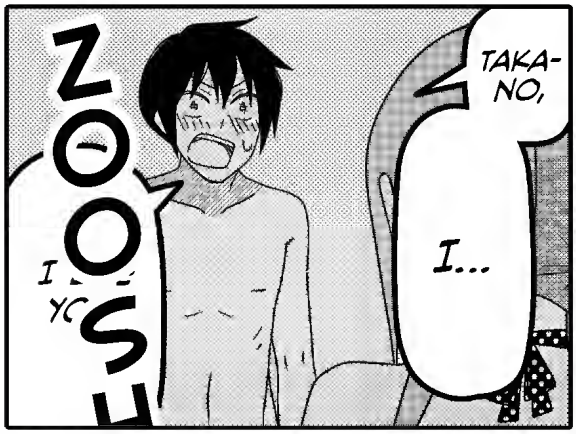

EEK

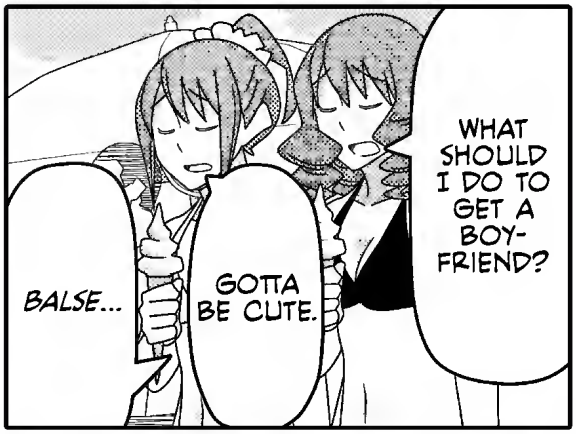

HUH?
WHA?

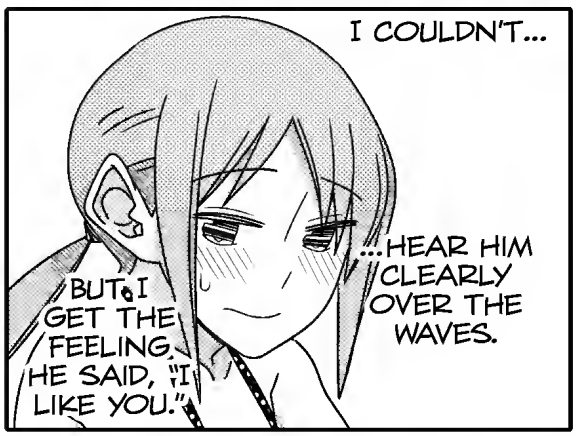
*BALSE: THE INCANTATION USED TO DESTROY THE FLYING CASTLE LAPUTA IN THE GHIBLI ANIMATED FILM *CASTLE IN THE SKY*.

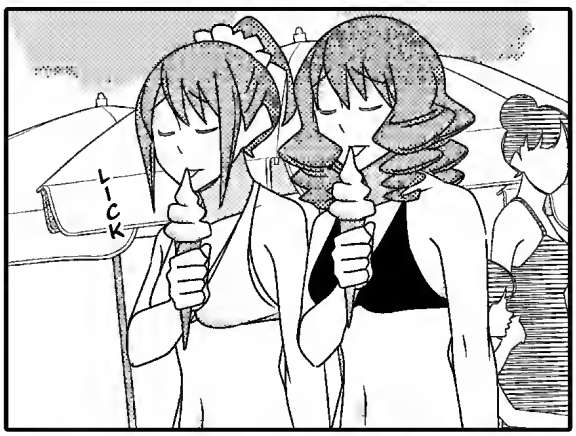


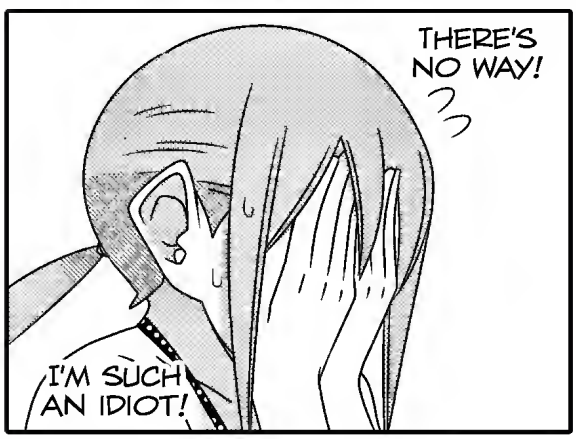


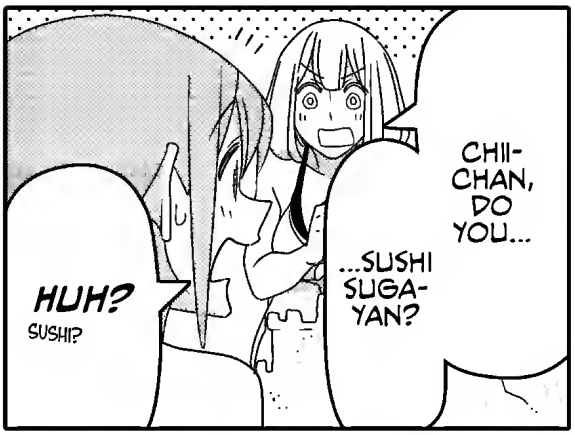


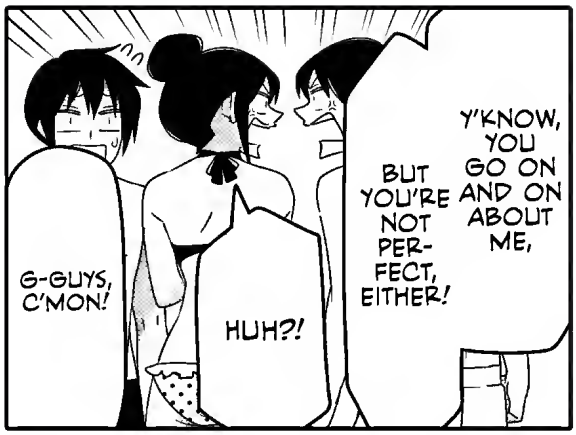


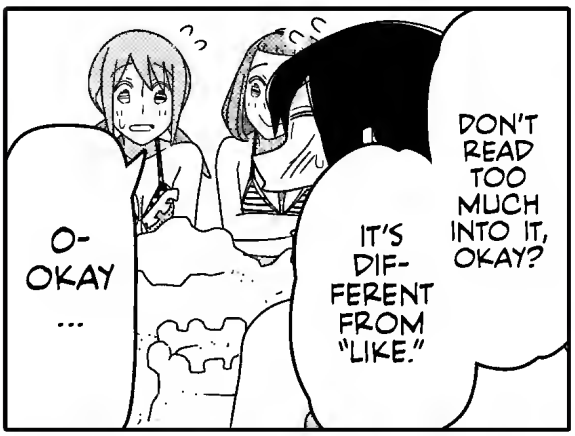


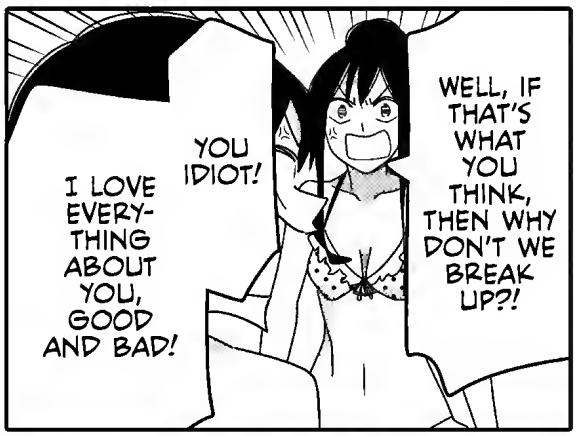




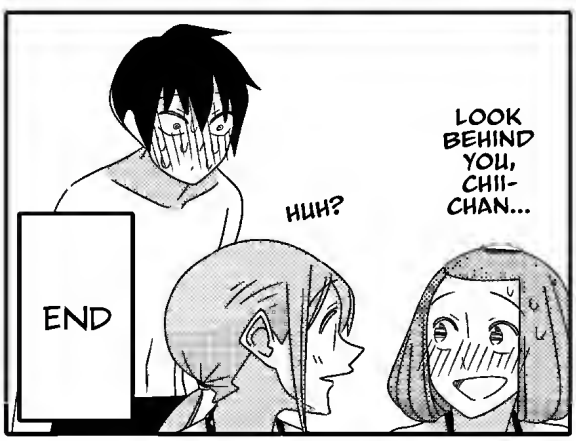

CHII-CHAN, DO YOU...
...SUSHI SUGA-YAN?
HUH?
SUSHI?


Y'KNOW, YOU GO ON AND ON ABOUT ME,
BUT YOU'RE NOT PER-FECT, EITHER!
G-GUYS, C'MON!
HUH?!


DON'T READ TOO MUCH INTO IT, OKAY?
IT'S DIF-FERENT FROM "LIKE."
O-OKAY ...


WELL, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, THEN WHY DON'T WE BREAK UP?!
YOU IDIOT!
I LOVE EVERY-THING ABOUT YOU, GOOD AND BAD!

YEAH ...
I SUSHI SUGA-WARA-KUN.


LOOK BEHIND YOU, CHII-CHAN...
HUH?
END

SORRY, I WENT TOO FAR.
NAH... I'M SORRY, TOO.

T S U r e × D U r e

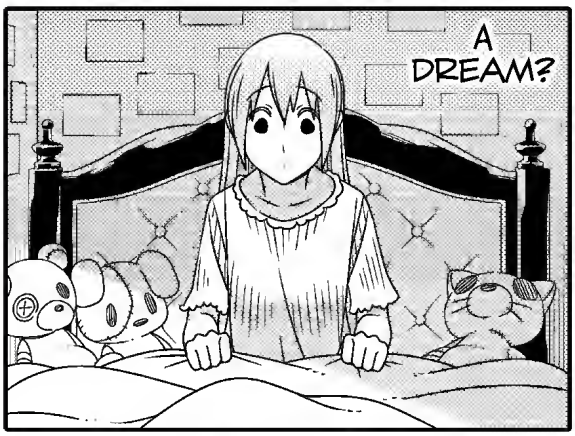
C H I L D R E N

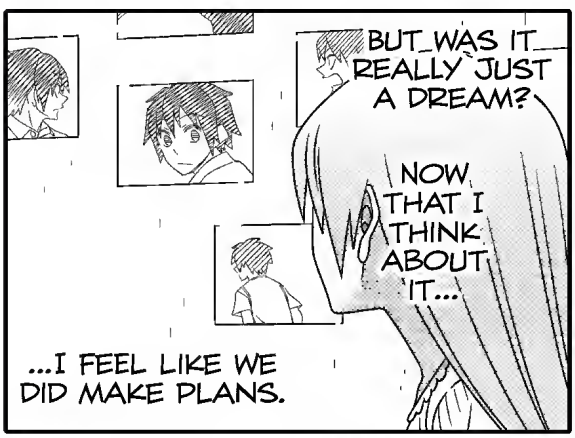
T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N

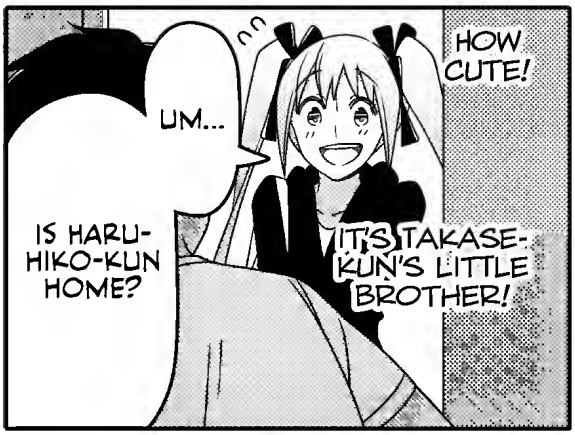
Here I Am

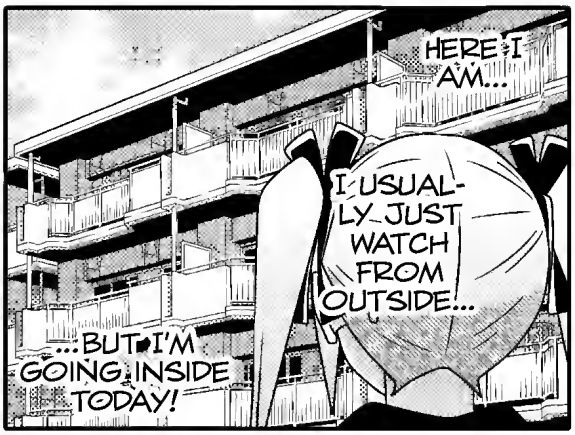
THE BOY I LIKE INVITED ME OVER TO HIS HOUSE.
I'LL BE WAITING!

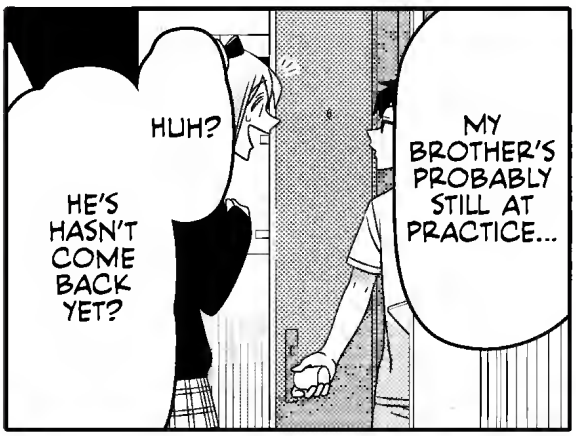

A DREAM?

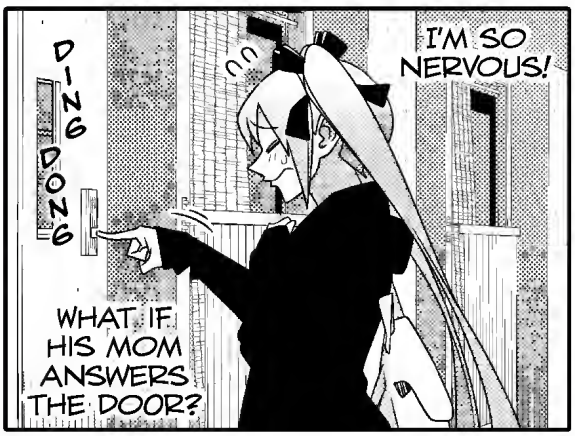

BUT WAS IT REALLY JUST A DREAM?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
...I FEEL LIKE WE DID MAKE PLANS.

...
WE PROBA-BLY DID.

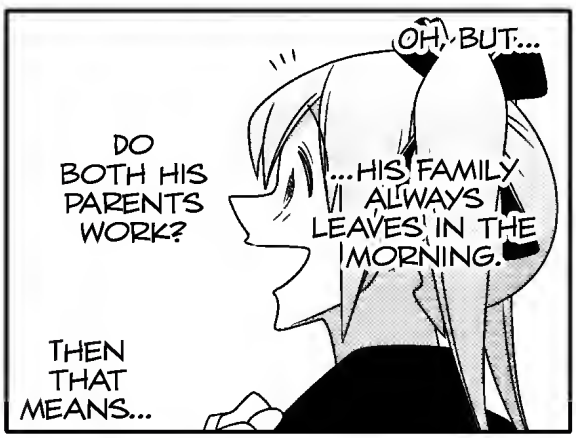

HOW CUTE!
UM...
IS HARUHIKO-KUN HOME?
IT'S TAKASE-KUN'S LITTLE BROTHER!


HERE I AM...
I USUALLY JUST WATCH FROM OUTSIDE...
...BUT I'M GOING INSIDE TODAY!


HUH?
HE'S HASN'T COME BACK YET?
MY BROTHER'S PROBABLY STILL AT PRACTICE...

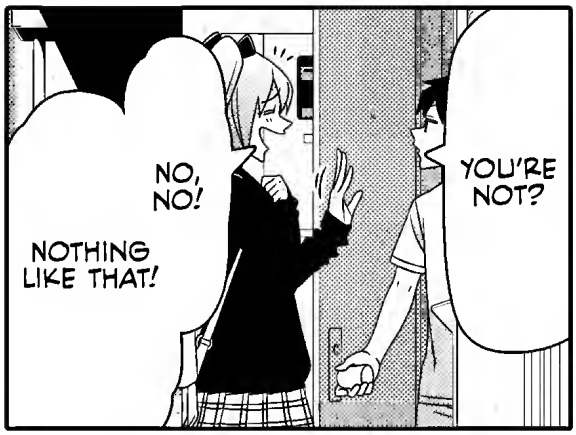

I'M SO NERVOUS!
DING DONG
WHAT IF HIS MOM ANSWERS THE DOOR?

UM...
EXCUSE ME, BUT...
OH... I'M SORRY!
I'M ALICE HIMEMIYA, A FRIEND FROM SCHOOL.


OH, BUT...
...HIS FAMILY ALWAYS LEAVES IN THE MORNING.
DO BOTH HIS PARENTS WORK?
THEN THAT MEANS...

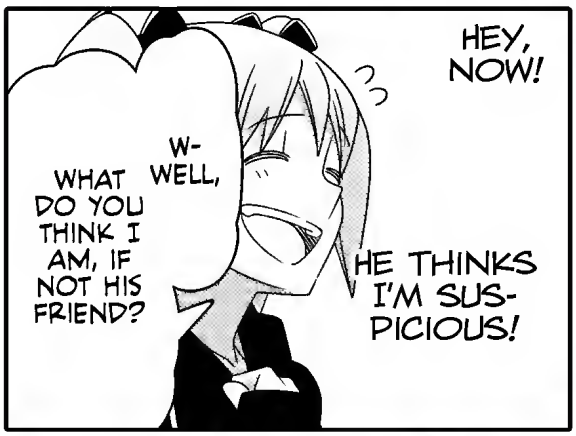
MISS...
ARE YOU REALLY JUST A FRIEND?

YES?
CHAK


NO, NO!
NOTHING LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE NOT?

WELL,
I DON'T THINK HE'D INVITE A GIRL OVER WHO'S JUST A FRIEND.
ERR... HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

JEEZ... MIDDLE SCHOOLERS THESE DAYS!
TAKASE-KUN AND I ARE STILL JUST FRIENDS...
WHAT'S A FUTURE SISTER-IN-LAW SUPPOSED TO DO?!

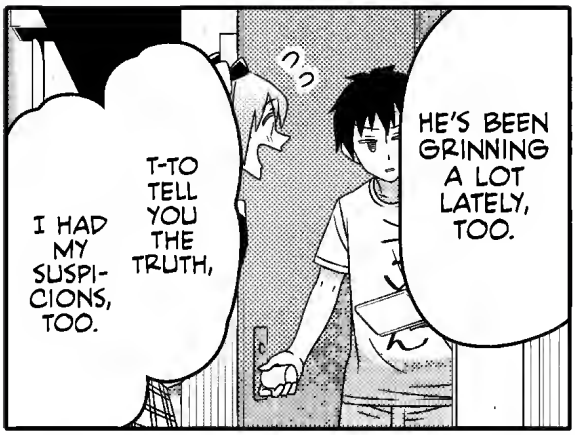

HEY, NOW!
W-WELL,
WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM, IF NOT HIS FRIEND?
HE THINKS I'M SUSPICIOUS!

"STILL"?

...
HIS GIRL-FRIEND?

AH!
WHOOPSIE! ☆

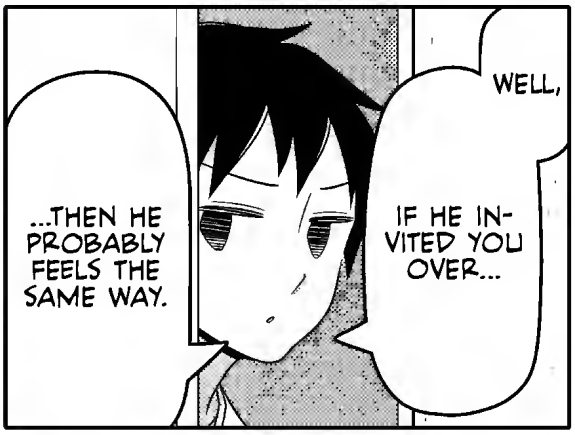
WHAAAAAT?
HIS GIRL-FRIEND?
OH, PLEASE!


HE'S BEEN GRINNING A LOT LATELY, TOO.
T-TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH,
I HAD MY SUSPICIONS, TOO.

SO, YOU'RE FRIENDS FOR NOW,
BUT YOU MIGHT GO OUT EVENTUALLY?
Y-YOU'RE OVERTHINKING THINGS!

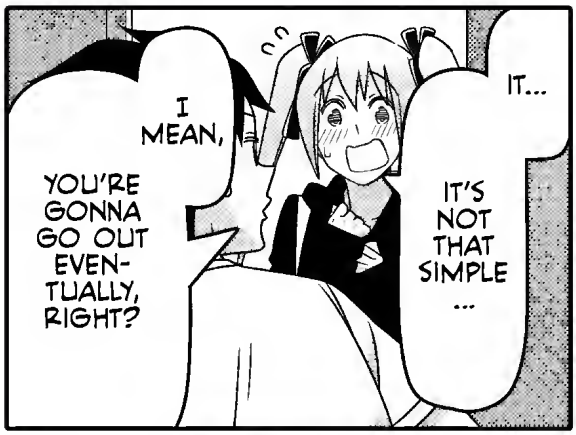
BUT I WONDER WHAT ...
...BRO'S PLANNING BY INVITING YOU OVER.
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

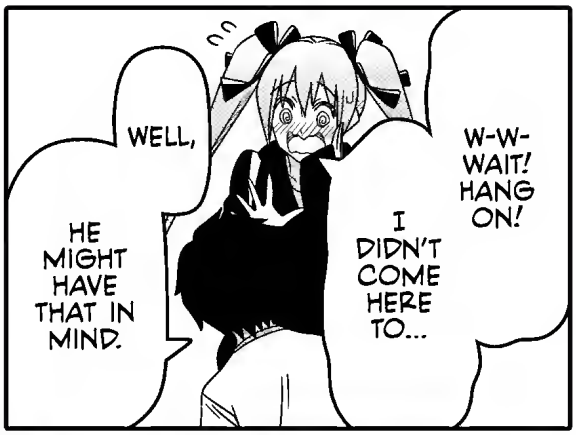
BESIDES,
KEEP THIS A SECRET FROM YOUR BROTHER...
...BUT I'M PRETTY SURE MY FEELINGS ARE STILL ONESIDED.


WELL,
IF HE INVITED YOU OVER...
...THEN HE PROBABLY FEELS THE SAME WAY.

AAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAH!

YOU REALLY THINK SO?!


IT...
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE ...
I MEAN,
YOU'RE GONNA GO OUT EVEN-TUALLY, RIGHT?


W-W-WAIT! HANG ON!
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO...
WELL,
HE MIGHT HAVE THAT IN MIND.

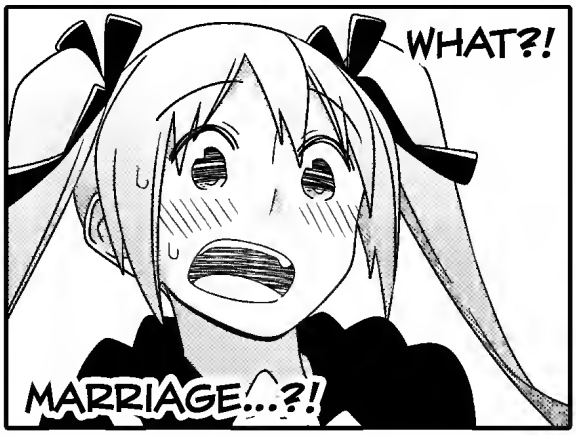
HE SHOULD BE BACK SOON.
WHY DON'T YOU WAIT INSIDE?
HUH? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

B-BUT ...
...WE HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED DATING YET.
TAKASE-KUN WOULDN'T ...

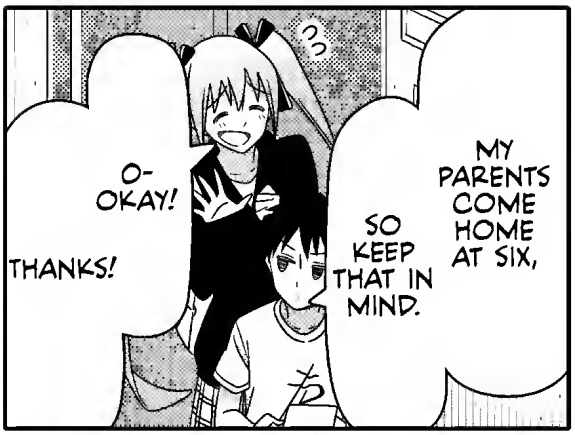
I'LL JUST BE IN THE WAY...
...IF I STICK AROUND, RIGHT?

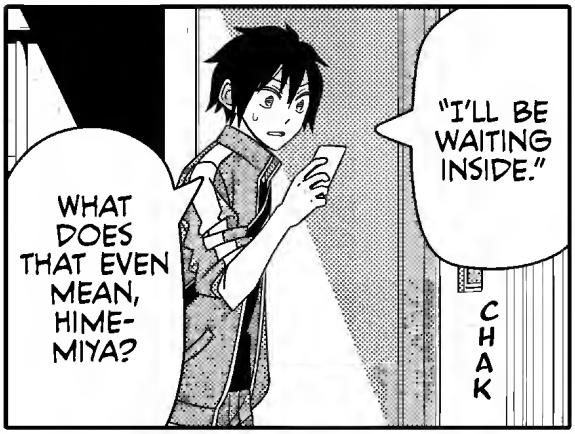
THEN...
...WHY DON'T YOU TWO JUST GET TOGETH-ER?

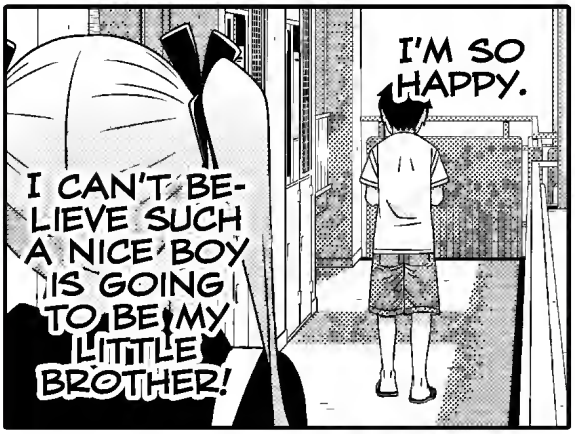
WHA-
WHAT AN ANGEL!


WHAT?!
MARRIAGE...?!

TAK
TAK
HM?

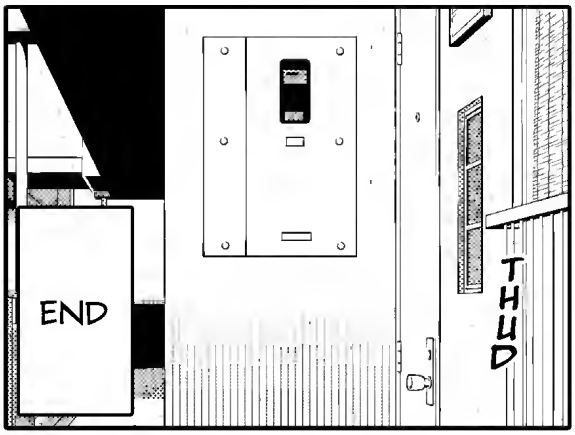

MY PARENTS COME HOME AT SIX,
SO KEEP THAT IN MIND.
O-OKAY!
THANKS!

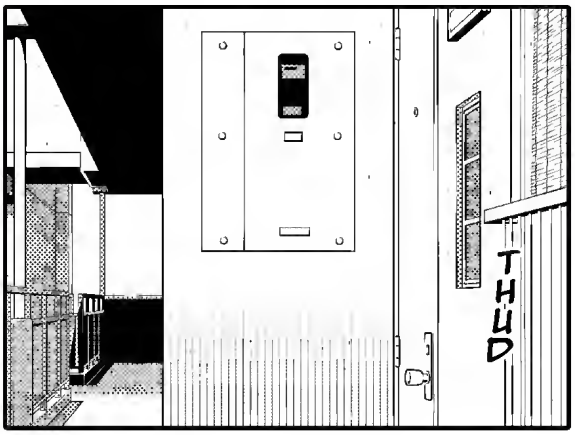

"I'LL BE WAITING INSIDE."
CHAK
WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN, HIME-MIYA?

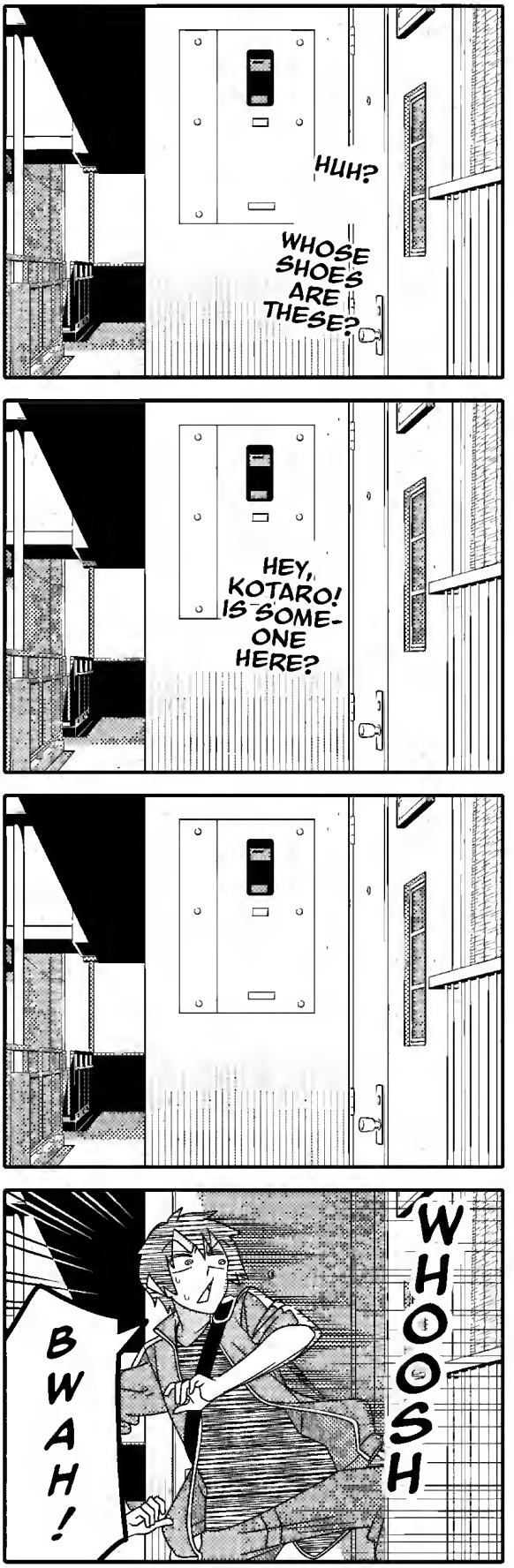

I'M SO HAPPY.
I CAN'T BE-LIEVE SUCH A NICE BOY IS GOING TO BE MY LITTLE BROTHER!

I'M HOME!

...NOW, NOW!
WE AREN'T EVEN GOING OUT YET.
LET'S NOT BE HASTY.☆

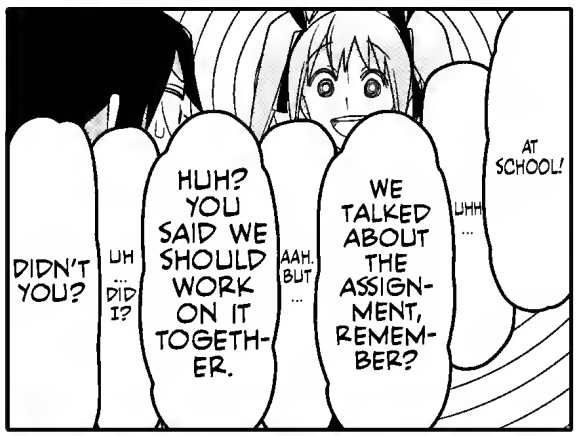

END
THUD


THUD


HUH?
WHOSE SHOES ARE THESE?
HEY, KOTARO! IS SOME-ONE HERE?
WHOOSH
BWAH!

WEL-COME HOME. ☆
?
HOLD UP.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

HM?
DIDN'T WE MAKE PLANS TODAY?
HUH? PLANS?


AT SCHOOL!
UHH...
WE TALKED ABOUT THE ASSIGN-MENT, REMEM-BER?
AAH. BUT...
HUH? YOU SAID WE SHOULD WORK ON IT TOGETH-ER.
UH... DID I?
DIDN'T YOU?

...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
...I FEEL LIKE I MIGHT'VE SAID SOME-THING LIKE THAT? MAYBE?

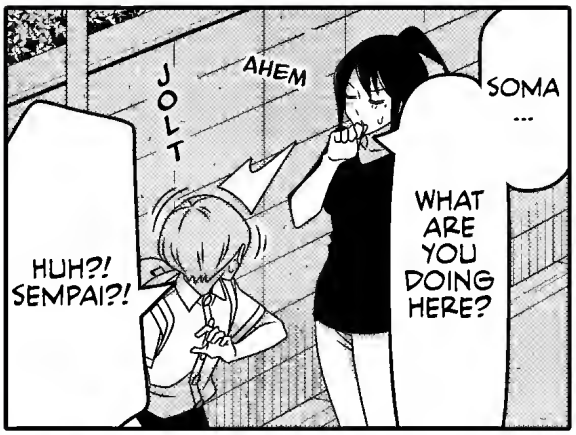
Trauma

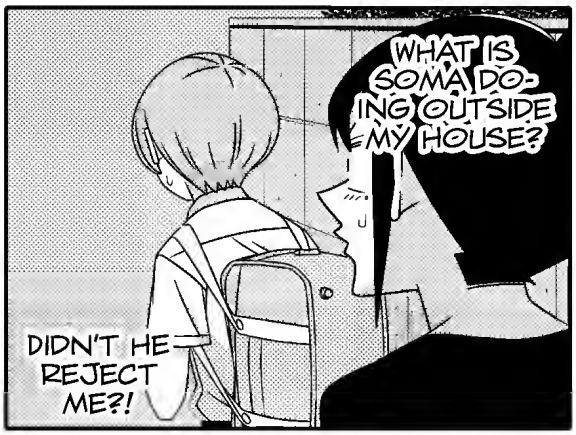
I MADE THE SEMPAI I LOOK UP TO CRY.
YOU DON'T SEE ME AS A GIRL...?

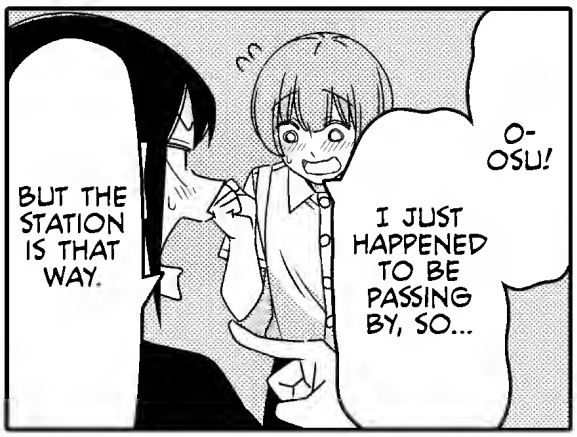
IT'S TRUE THAT...
...I HADN'T UNTIL NOW.
I THOUGHT IT WAS WRONG FOR ME TO.

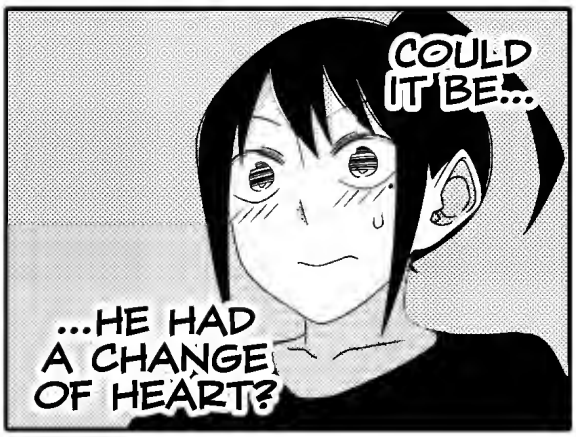
BUT, I ALSO GENUINELY ENJOYED...
...THE TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER.

SIGH...
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GO HOME...


SOMA...
AHEM
JOLT
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HUH?! SEMPAI?!


WHAT IS SOMA DOING OUTSIDE MY HOUSE?
DIDN'T HE REJECT ME?!


O-OSU!
I JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY, SO...
BUT THE STATION IS THAT WAY.

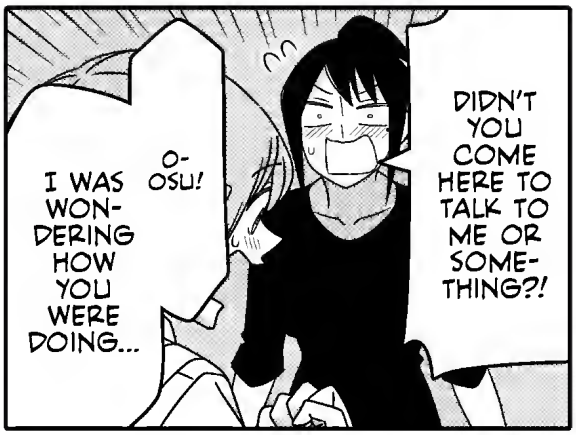

COULD IT BE...
...HE HAD A CHANGE OF HEART?

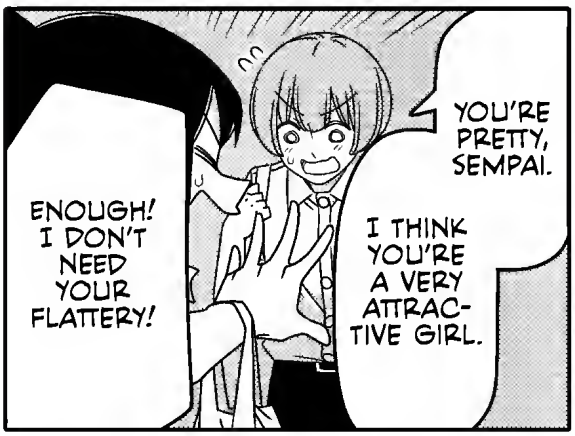
OSU!
I'LL JUST BE GOING, THEN!

WAIT, WAIT, WAIT!

NO, NO, NO.
LET'S NOT GET THE WRONG IDEA AGAIN.
SOMA DOESN'T FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT ME AT ALL!

TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE!
BESIDES, IT ONLY MAKES SENSE THAT YOU REJECTED ME...
QUIT BEING CONSIDERATE!


O-OSU!
I WAS WONDERING HOW YOU WERE DOING...
DIDN'T YOU COME HERE TO TALK TO ME OR SOMETHING?!


ENOUGH! I DON'T NEED YOUR FLATTERY!
I THINK YOU'RE A VERY ATTRACTIVE GIRL.
YOU'RE PRETTY, SEMPAI.

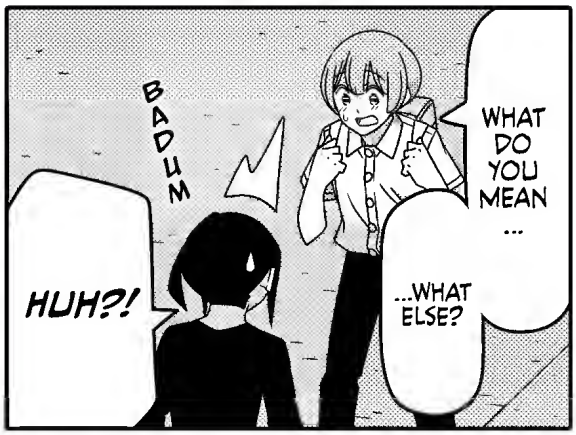
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M JUST DANDY!
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT DUMPING ME?
HAH!

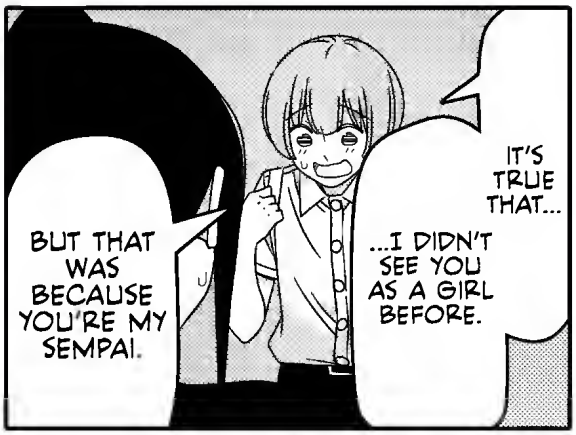
YOU'RE WONDERFUL, SEMPAI!
IT'S TRUE!

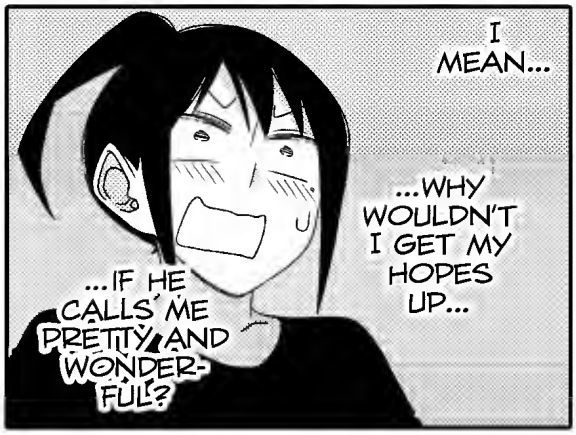
THANK GOODNESS!

!

SOMAAAA!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...
...WHAT ELSE?
BADUM
HUH?!


IT'S TRUE THAT...
...I DIDN'T SEE YOU AS A GIRL BEFORE.
BUT THAT WAS BECAUSE YOU'RE MY SEMPAI.


I MEAN...
...WHY WOULDN'T I GET MY HOPES UP...
...IF HE CALLS ME PRETTY AND WONDER-FUL?

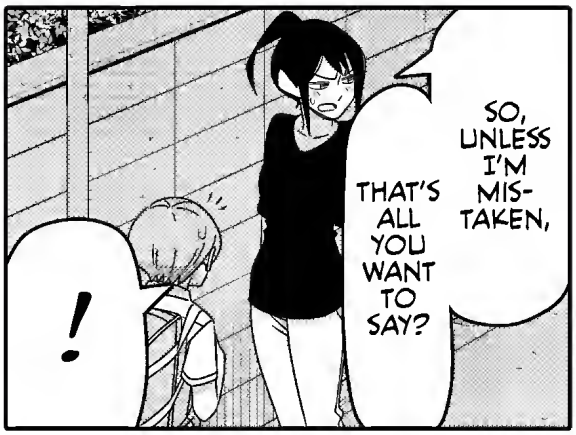
WHEN I LOOK AT YOU AS JUST ANOTHER GIRL,
I THINK...
...YOU'RE WON-DERFUL.

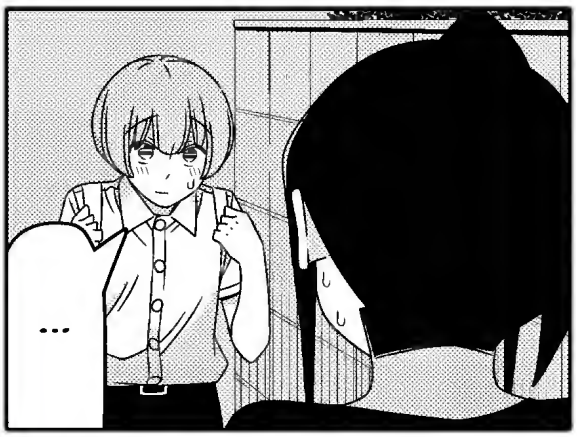
BUT THERE'S STILL A CHANCE THAT...
...EVEN IF HE THINKS I'M WONDERFUL...
...HE'S NOT INTERESTED IN DATING ME.

AND?

I'M SCARED!
I DON'T WANT TO GET THE WRONG IDEA AGAIN!

YOU THINK I'M WON-DER-FUL...
WHAT ELSE?


SO, UNLESS I'M MIS-TAKEN,
THAT'S ALL YOU WANT TO SAY?
!

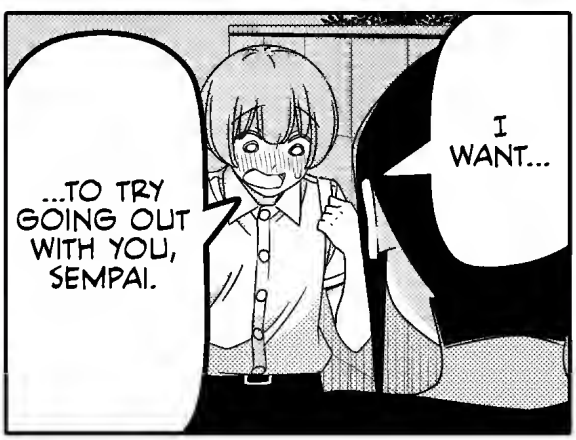

...

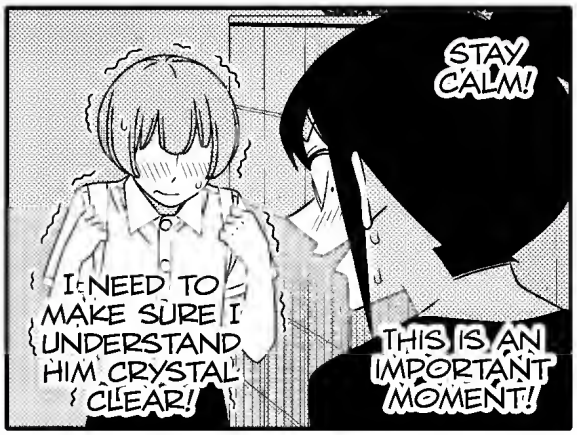
NO.
THE REASON I CAME HERE...
...WAS TO TELL SAEJIMA-SEMPAI HOW I FEEL ABOUT HER AS A GIRL.

WHA-
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

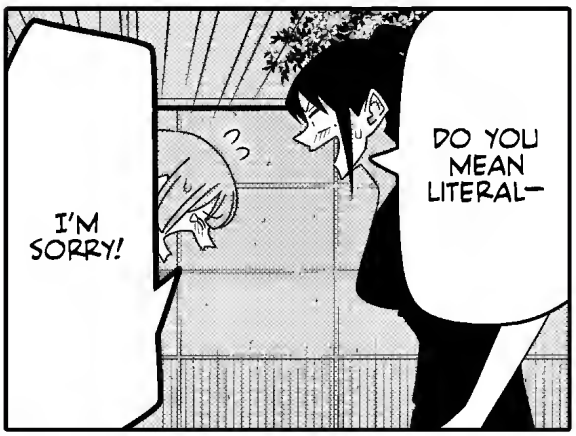
WELL,
IT'S FINE IF THAT'S ALL.
YOU'VE BEEN KIND ENOUGH...

!


I WANT...
...TO TRY GOING OUT WITH YOU, SEMPAI.

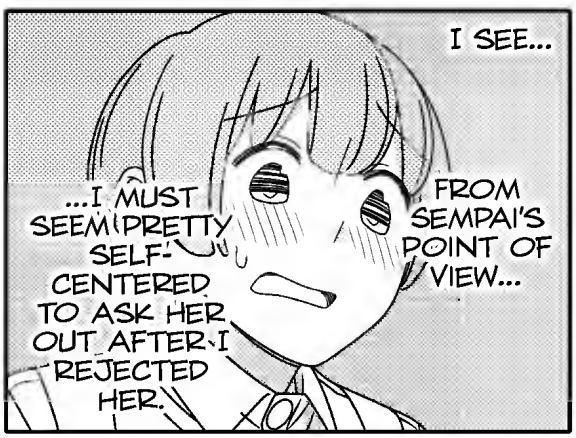

STAY CALM!
I NEED TO MAKE SURE I UNDERSTAND HIM CRYSTAL CLEAR!
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MOMENT!

BY YOU WANT TO TRY GOING OUT,
WHAT EXACT-LY DO YOU MEAN?
I-I'M NOT SURE I UNDER-STAND...


DO YOU MEAN LITERAL—
I'M SORRY!

WELL,
WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY... YOU KNOW...
GASP
!

WHISH


I SEE...
FROM SEMPAI'S POINT OF VIEW...
...I MUST SEEM PRETTY SELF-CENTERED TO ASK HER OUT AFTER I REJECTED HER.

...
HUH?
END

I'M...
...SUCH AN IDIOT!

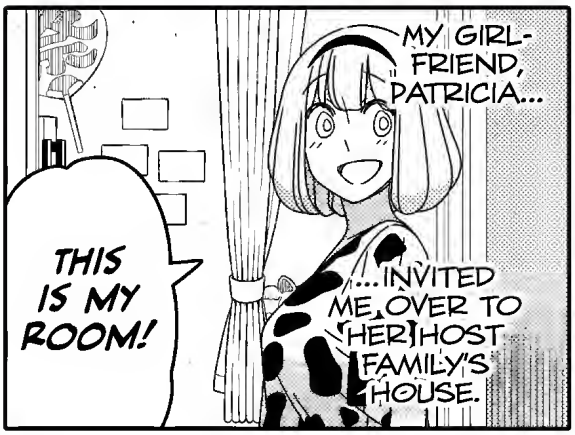
T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N

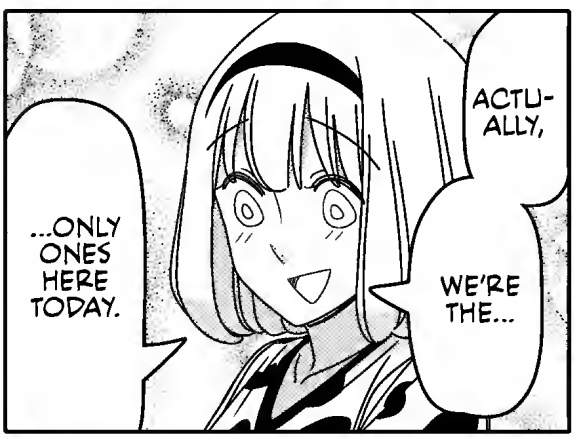
T S U ᒋ e × D U ᒋ e

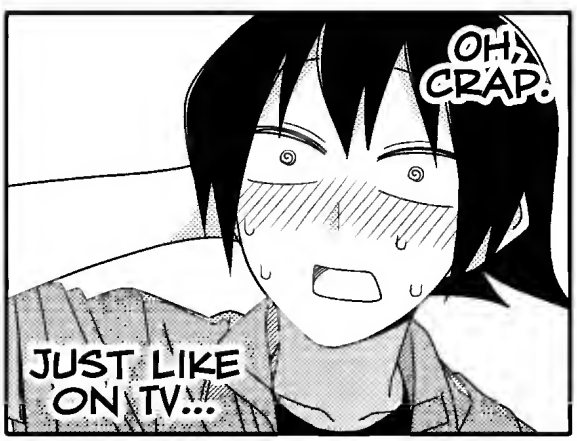
C H I L D R E N

Vow


MY GIRL-FRIEND, PATRICIA...
....INVITED ME OVER TO HER HOST FAMILY'S HOUSE.
THIS IS MY ROOM!

Y-YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
WON'T WE BOTHER YOUR HOST FAMILY?
I WAS A LITTLE SHOCKED...
...SINCE SHE HASN'T EVEN LET ME KISS HER YET.


ACTU-ALLY,
WE'RE THE...
...ONLY ONES HERE TODAY.

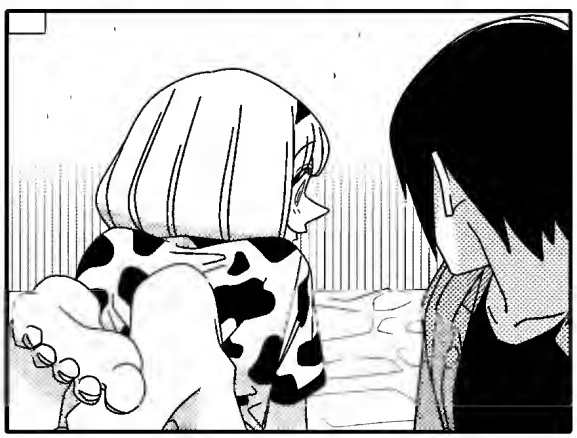

OH, CRAP.
JUST LIKE ON TV...

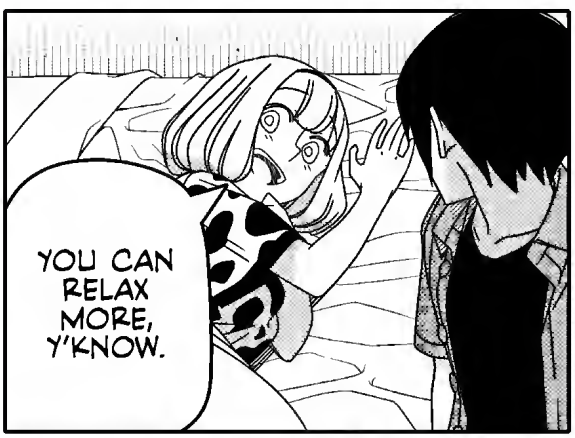
JOLT
!
THE TRUTH IS,
THERE'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT.

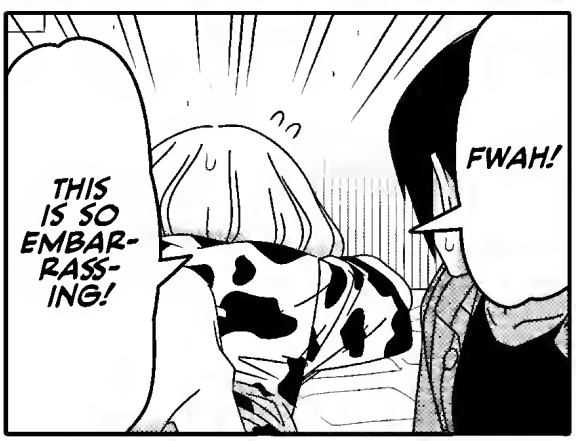
KEI-SUKE!
HUH? ERR...
RIGHT.
PAT PAT

TH-THAT WAS CLOSE!
WH-WHAT IS IT?
I ALMOST GOT THE WRONG IDEA...

CHILL OUT.
PATRI-CIA'S AN EARNEST GIRL.
JUST BE-CAUSE SHE'S LETTING ME SIT ON HER BED DOESN'T MEAN THAT...



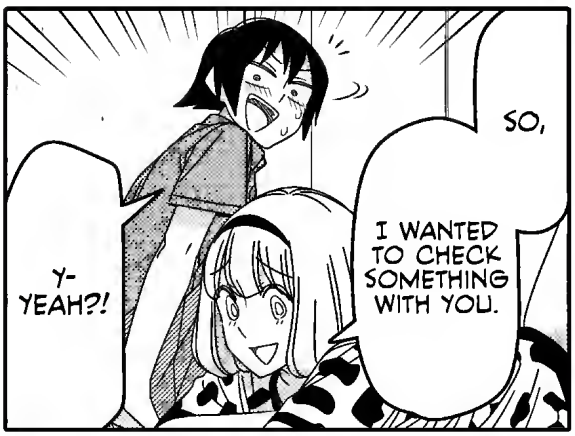

YOU CAN RELAX MORE, Y'KNOW.

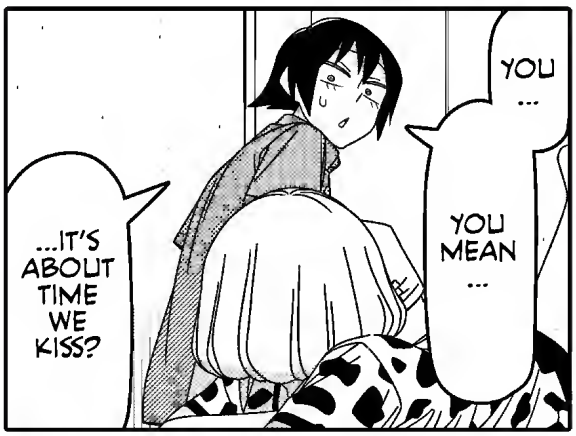

FWAH!
THIS IS SO EMBAR-RASS-ING!

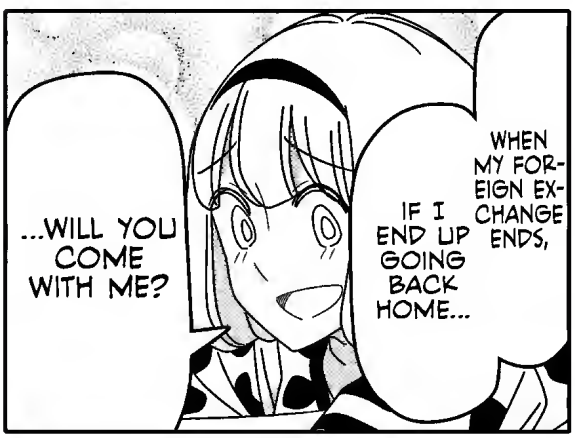
DOES IT?!
IS THAT WHAT SHE MEANS?!

WE'RE NOT KIDS, Y'KNOW.
WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT BEYOND THAT.
BE-YOND THAT...
BE-YOND ...

HUH?
WE'VE BEEN GOING OUT FOR FOUR MONTHS, RIGHT?
SO, IT'S ABOUT TIME...
REALLY, WHAT?


SO,
I WANTED TO CHECK SOMETHING WITH YOU.
Y-YEAH?!

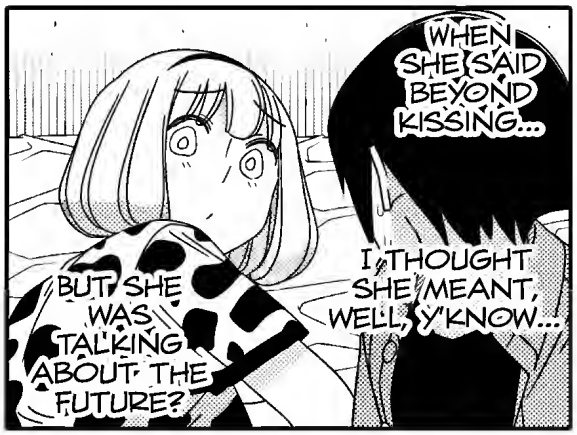

YOU ...
YOU MEAN ...
...IT'S ABOUT TIME WE KISS?

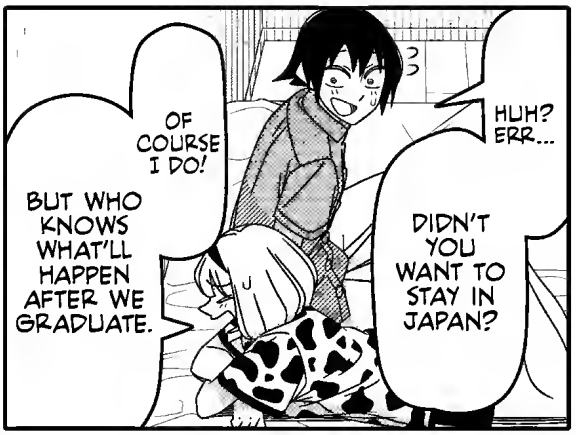

WHEN MY FOR-EIGN EX-CHANGE ENDS,
IF I END UP GOING BACK HOME...
...WILL YOU COME WITH ME?

OH, PLEASE!
I WOULDN'T INVITE YOU OVER...
...JUST SO WE COULD KISS!

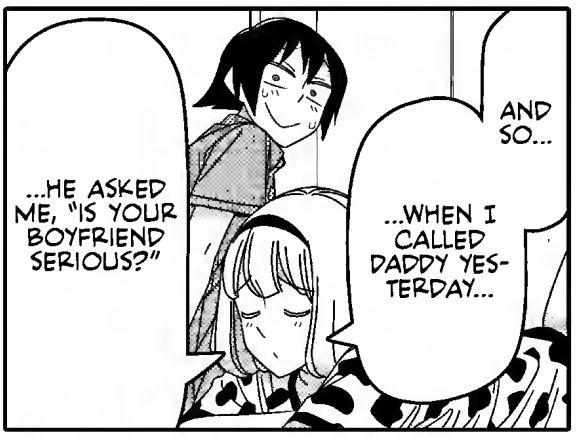
!

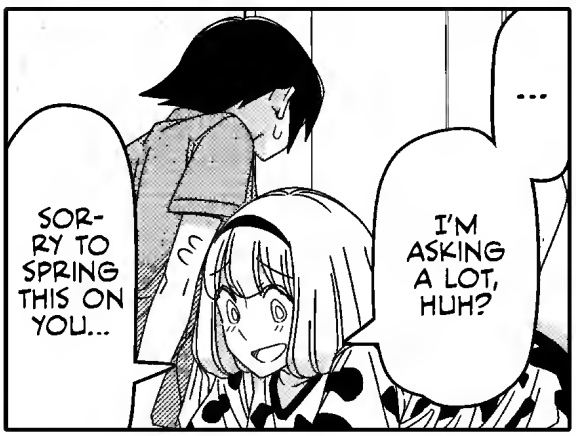
OOOOH, MAN!
DOES THAT MEAN...?!


WHEN SHE SAID BEYOND KISSING...
I THOUGHT SHE MEANT, WELL, Y'KNOW...
BUT SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT THE FUTURE?


HUH? ERR...
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO STAY IN JAPAN?
OF COURSE I DO!
BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT'LL HAPPEN AFTER WE GRADUATE.

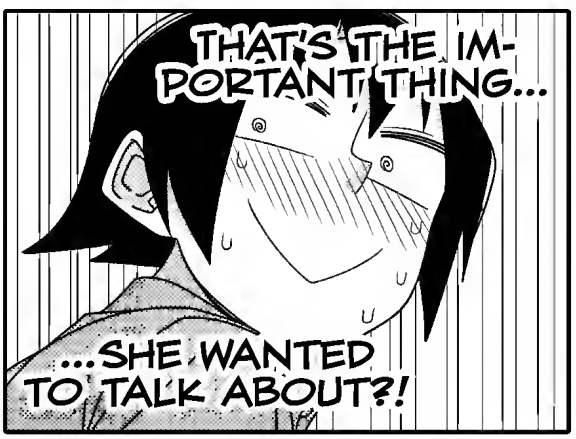
GOOD QUESTION.
DO I HAVE THE RESOLVE...
...TO FOLLOW PATTY IF SHE GOES HOME?

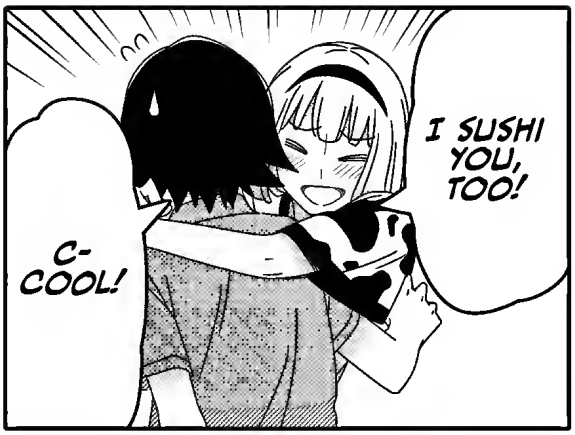

AND SO...
...WHEN I CALLED DADDY YESTERDAY...
...HE ASKED ME, "IS YOUR BOYFRIEND SERIOUS?"


...
I'M ASKING A LOT, HUH?
SORRY TO SPRING THIS ON YOU...

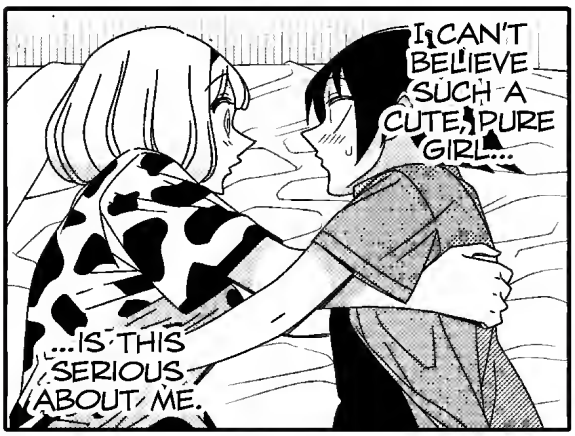
KEISUKE.
CAN YOU SWEAR TO DADDY...
...THAT YOU SERIOUSLY SUSHI ME?

PATTY!
I SERIOUSLY SUSHI YOU!

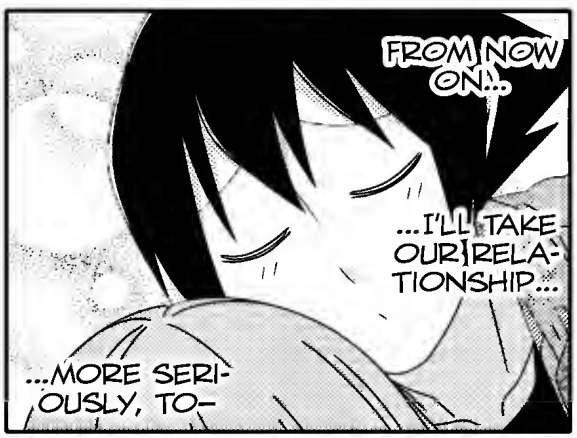

THAT'S THE IMPORTANT THING...
...SHE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?!


I SUSHI YOU, TOO!
C-COOL!

HONESTLY, I STILL DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE FUTURE.
I DON'T WANT TO MAKE PROMISES I CAN'T KEEP.

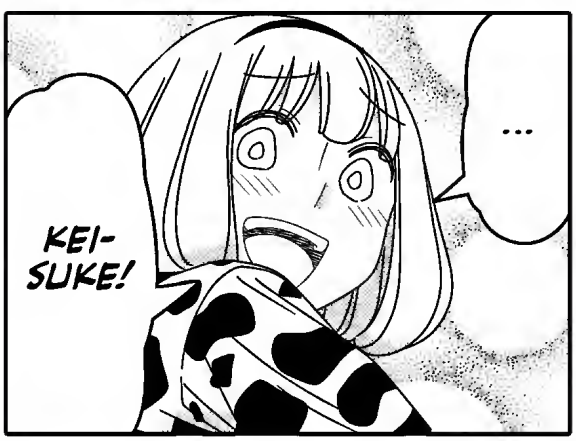

I CAN'T BELIEVE SUCH A CUTE, PURE GIRL...
...IS THIS SERIOUS ABOUT ME.

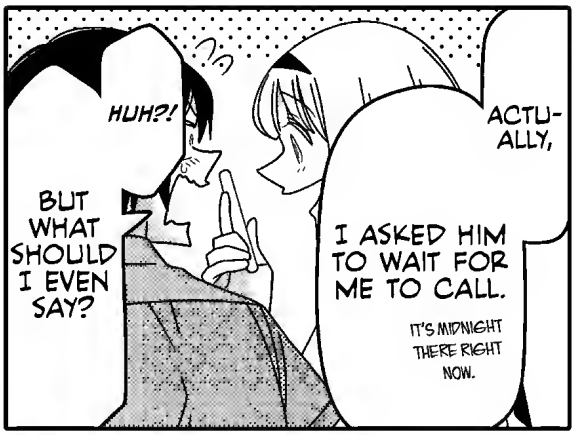
BUT I'LL DO MY BEST AND STUDY HARD...
...SO WE CAN BE TOGETHER.

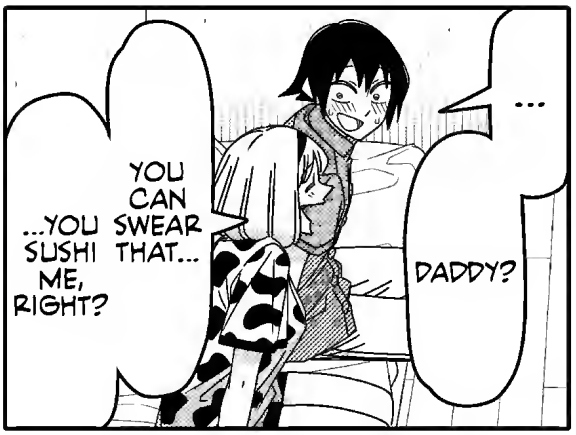

FROM NOW ON...
...I'LL TAKE OUR RELATIONSHIP...
...MORE SERIOUSLY, TO-

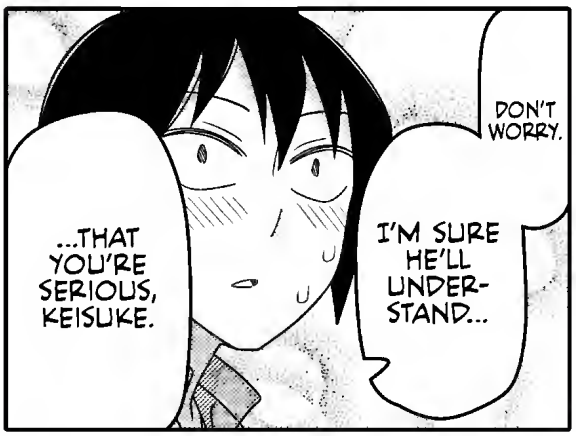
SO, TUTOR ME...
...IN ENGLISH, OKAY?

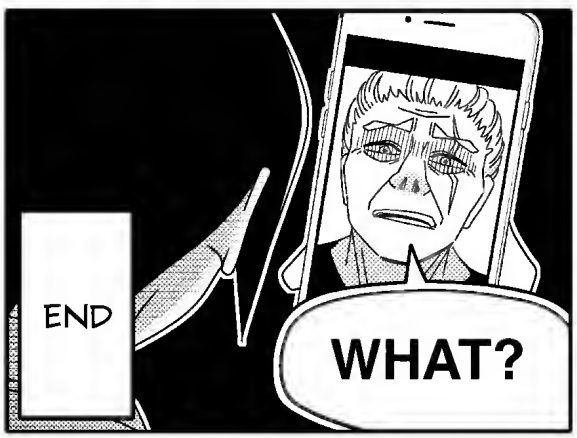
PERK
OKAY!
DO YOU WANT TO TELL DADDY YOURSELF?

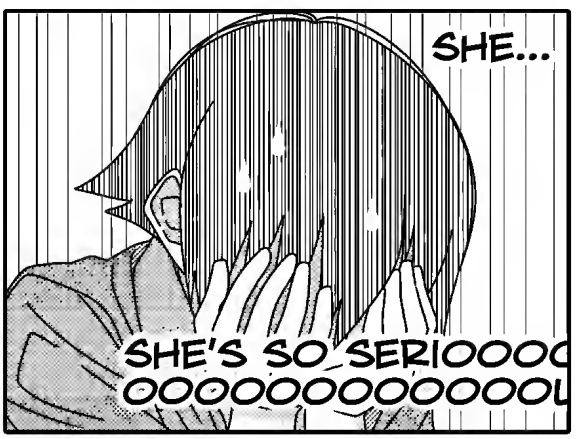

...
KEISUKE!










SHE...
SHE'S SO SERIOOO

T S U r e × D U r e

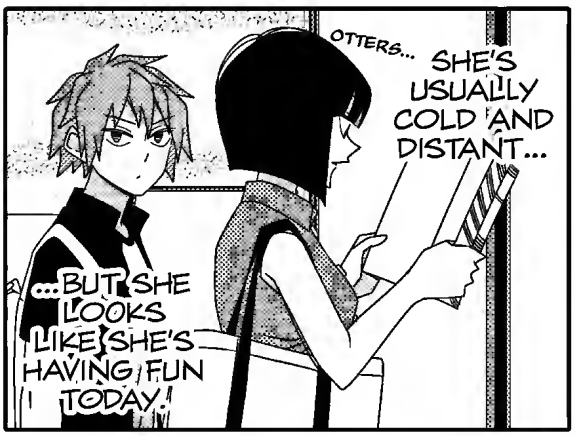
C H I L D R E N

T S U ᒋ e × D U ᒋ e

C H I L D R E N

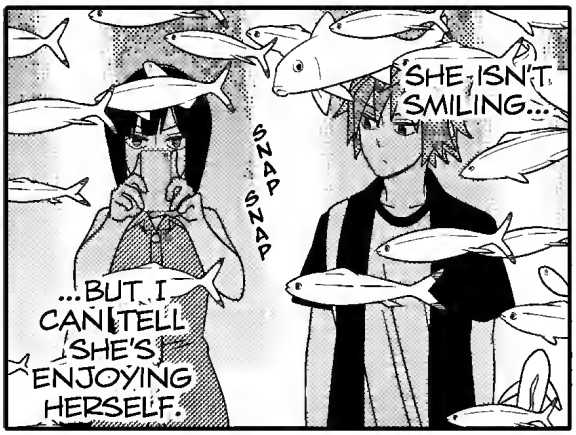
Aquarium

I CAME TO THE AQUARIUM WITH MY GIRL-FRIEND.
WHAT?
THEY DON'T HAVE SEA OTTERS?


OTTERS... SHE'S USUALLY COLD AND DISTANT...
...BUT SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN TODAY.

WHAT-EVER.
I'LL LOOK AT STUFFED OTTERS AT THE GIFT SHOP.

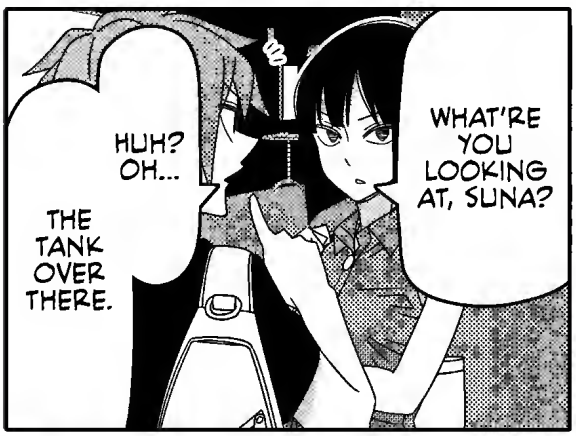
YEAH, LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN.


SHE ISN'T SMILING...
SNAP SNAP
...BUT, I CAN TELL SHE'S ENJOYING HERSELF.

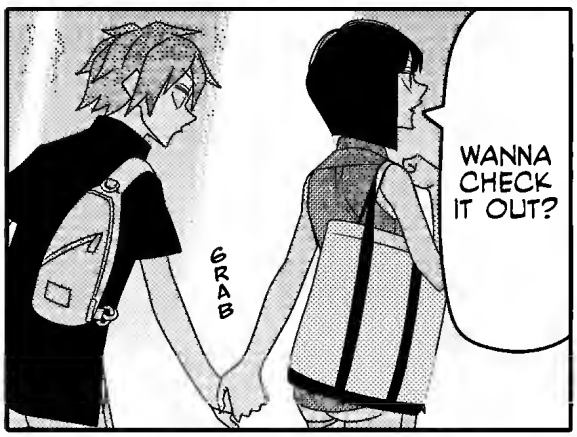
DO YOU LIKE OTTERS, TODA?
EH,
THEY'RE ALL RIGHT.

MAYBE IF I'M LUCKY...
...I'LL GET TO SEE TODA SMILE TODAY.
!

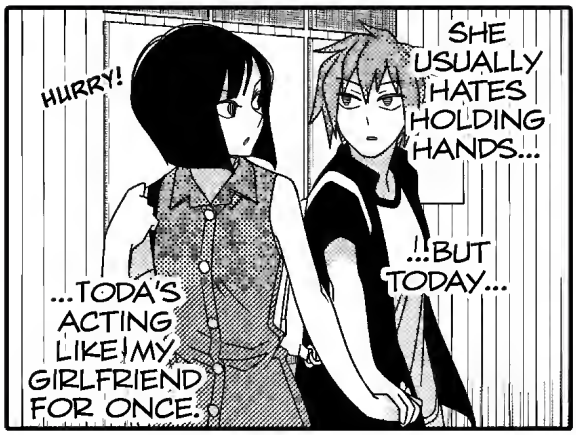
WHOA.
I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD ABOUT SOMETHING SHE LIKES.
OH... TOO BAD, HUH?

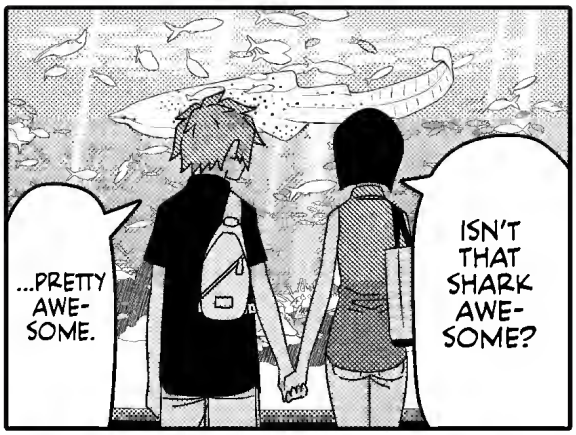

WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT, SUNA?
HUH? OH... THE TANK OVER THERE.

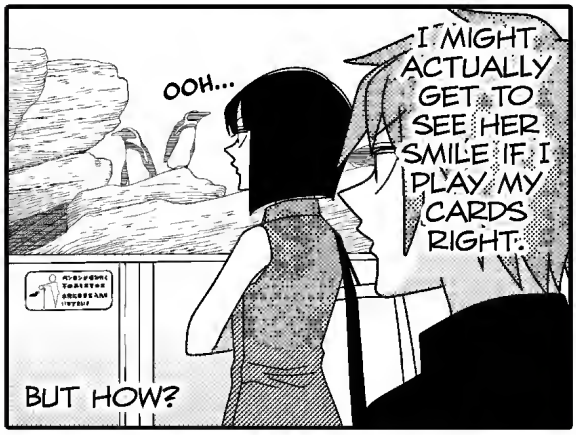
BUT...
FMP
...THEY DO HAVE PENGUINS.

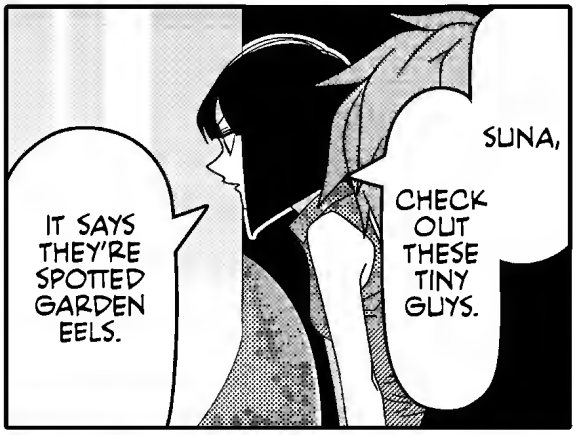

WANNA CHECK IT OUT?
GRAB

SHE LIKES PENGUINS, TOO!

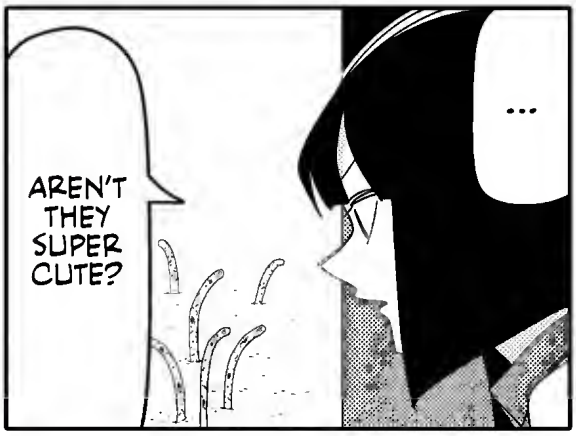

HURRY!
SHE USUALLY HATES HOLDING HANDS...
!!BUT TODAY...
...TODA'S ACTING LIKE MY GIRLFRIEND FOR ONCE.


ISN'T THAT SHARK AWE-SOME?
...PRETTY AWE-SOME.

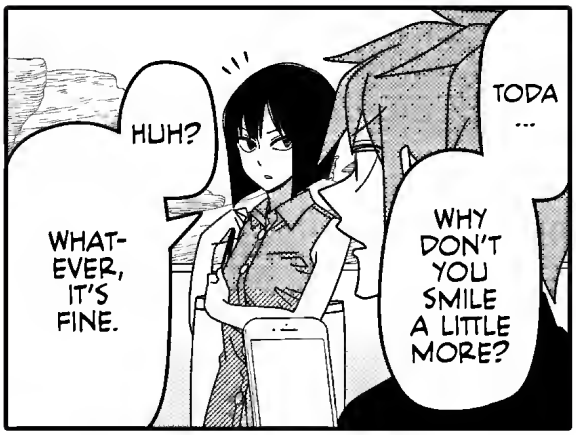

I MIGHT ACTUALLY GET TO SEE HER SMILE IF I PLAY MY CARDS RIGHT.
OOH...
BUT HOW?


SUNA,
CHECK OUT THESE TINY GUYS.
IT SAYS THEY'RE SPOTTED GARDEN EELS.

OKAY! SAY CHEESE!
SNAP

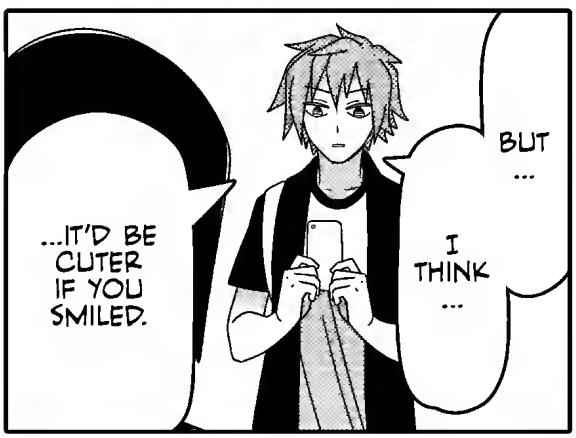

...
AREN'T THEY SUPER CUTE?

...
SUPER CUTE.


HEY, TODA ...
I'LL TAKE YOUR PICTURE.
SERI-OUSLY?

TODA ...
WHY DON'T YOU SMILE A LITTLE MORE?
HUH?
WHAT-EVER, IT'S FINE.

TAKE A GOOD ONE.
S-SURE.


BUT ...
I THINK ...
...IT'D BE CUTER IF YOU SMILED.

O-OKAY.
SAY CHEESE!

FINE.
I'LL JUST TAKE IT MYSELF.

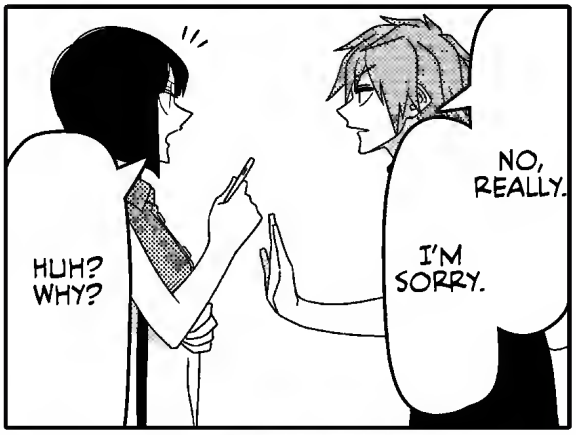
CLICK!

!

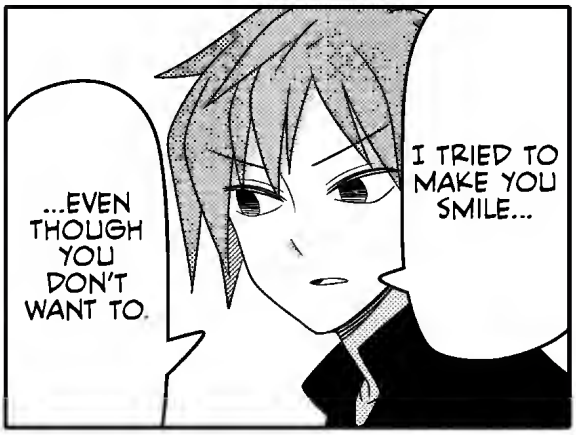
...
NO...
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T WANT TO SMILE.
YOU'RE NOT MAD?

OH... SORRY ...
IT'S OKAY.
I HAVE MORE CONTROL IF I TAKE IT MYSELF.

I JUST FEEL KINDA STUPID...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...SMILING BY MYSELF.
I'M HERE, TOO.

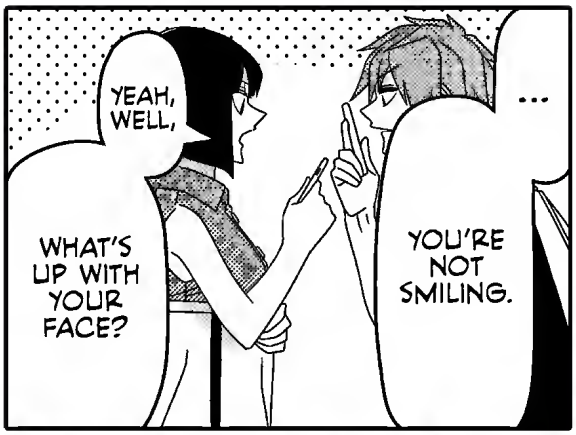

NO, REALLY.
I'M SORRY.
HUH? WHY?

I KNOW.
SO, LET'S TAKE ONE SMILING TOGETHER.


I TRIED TO MAKE YOU SMILE...
...EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T WANT TO.

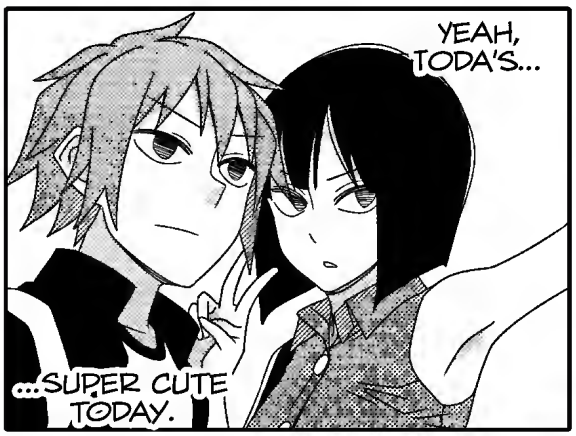
!

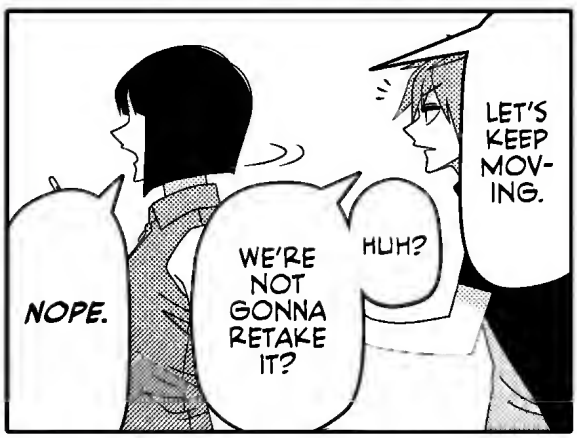
THAT'S WHY,
I'LL TIME WHEN I SMILE...
...SO YOU GET IN, TOO, SUNA.


...
YOU'RE NOT SMILING.
YEAH, WELL,
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR FACE?

YOU NEVER SMILE, EITHER.
MAKE SURE YOU DO, OKAY?
I'LL TRY.

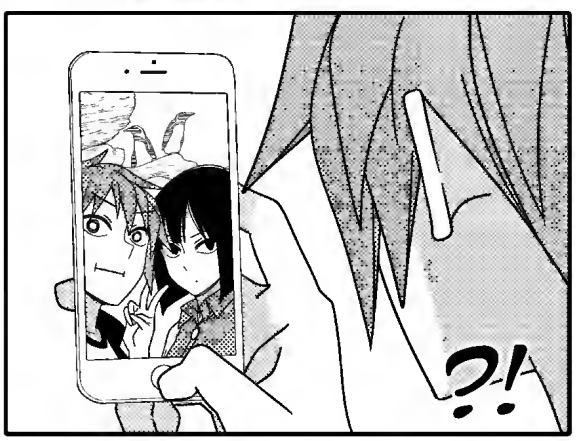
I TRIED TO SMILE, AT LEAST.
HMM.
WELL, WHAT-EVER.


YEAH, TODA'S...
...SUPER CUTE TODAY.


LET'S KEEP MOV-ING.
HUH?
WE'RE NOT GONNA RETAKE IT?
NOPE.

I'M GLAD WE CAME.
CHEESE.
SNAP

I LOOK SO WEIRD...
END


?!

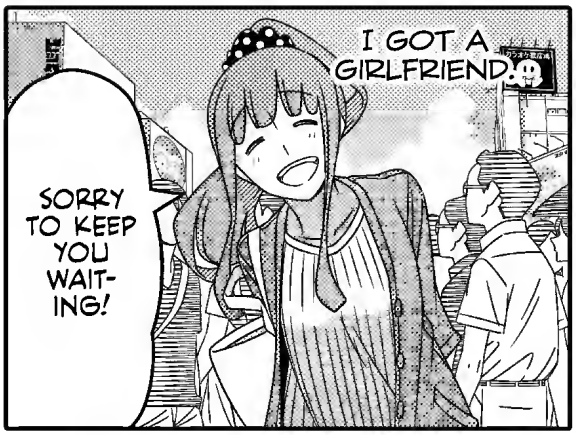
T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N

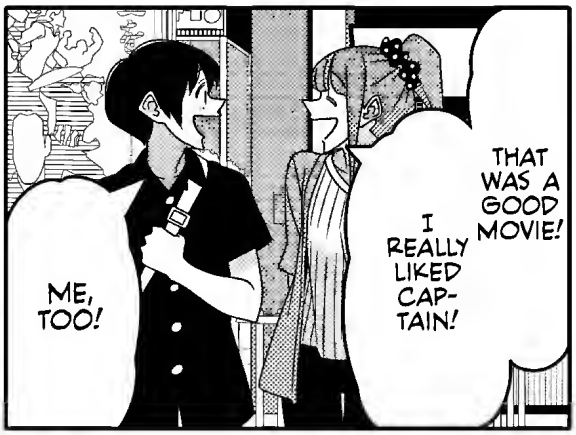
T S U ᒋ e × D U ᒋ e

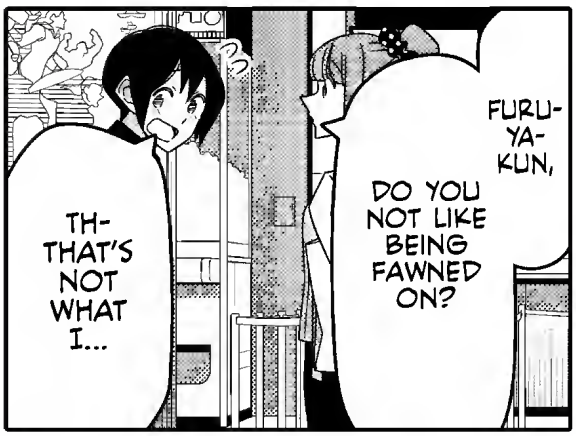
C H I L D R E N

Realization



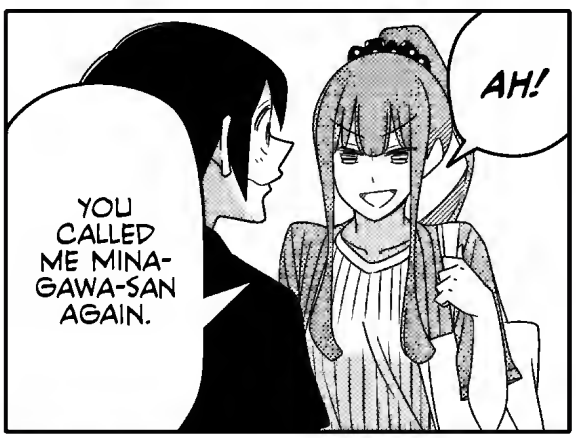
I-IF YOU WANT ME TO USE YOUR FIRST NAME...
...THEN I WILL.
AH!
YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY THAT CARD?


THAT WAS A GOOD MOVIE!
I REALLY LIKED CAPTAIN!
ME, TOO!

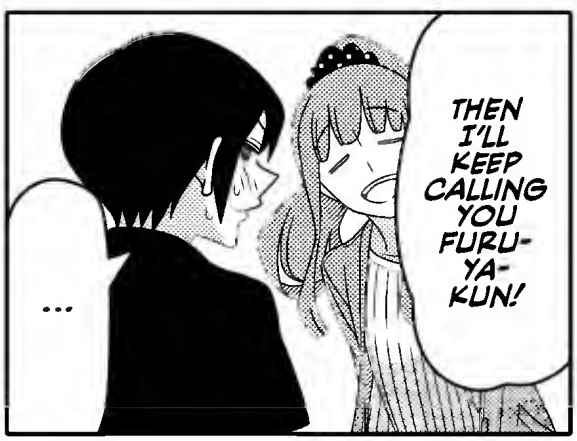

FURU-YA-KUN,
DO YOU NOT LIKE BEING FAWNED ON?
TH-THAT'S NOT WHAT I...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO EAT, MINAGAWA-SAN?

I'M PRETTY CLINGY, Y'KNOW.


AH!
YOU CALLED ME MINAGAWA-SAN AGAIN.

SMIRK
SMIRK
CINEMA
...


THEN I'LL KEEP CALLING YOU FURU-YA-KUN!
...

Y-YUKI?
WHAT IS IT, JUN-KUN?

YOU'RE TEASING ME AGAIN, AREN'T YOU?!
NO! I JUST WANT YOU TO TAKE THE LEAD!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT, YUKI?
HMM. I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, JUN-KUN!

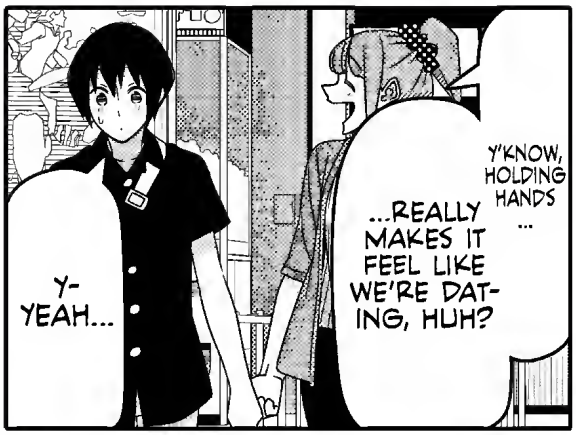
ISN'T THAT OKAY? YOU ARE MY BOY-FRIEND, AFTER ALL.
...

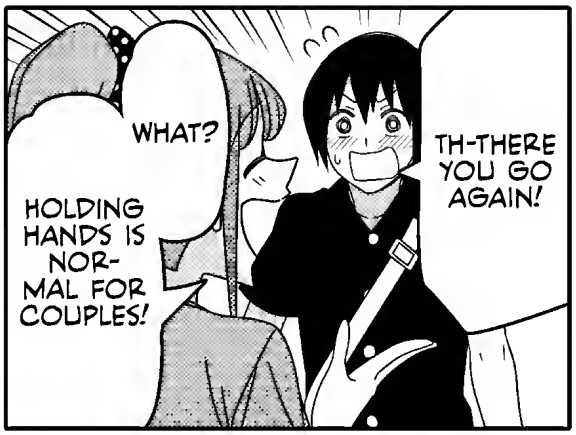
I KNEW SHE WAS MAKING FUN OF ME!
THEN LET'S JUST FIND SOMEWHERE TO—

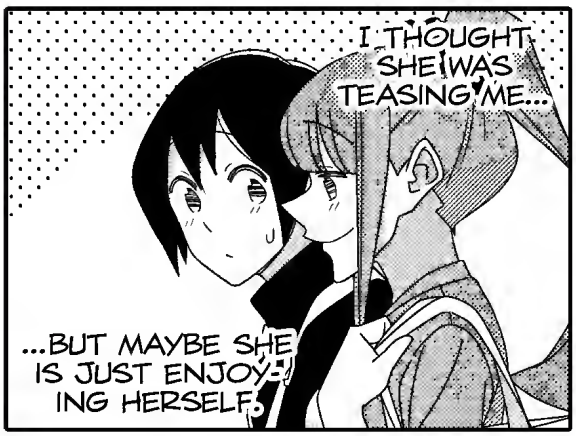
OKAY ...
SH-
SHOULD I CALL YOU YUKI-SAN, THEN?

WILL YOU HOLD MY HAND?

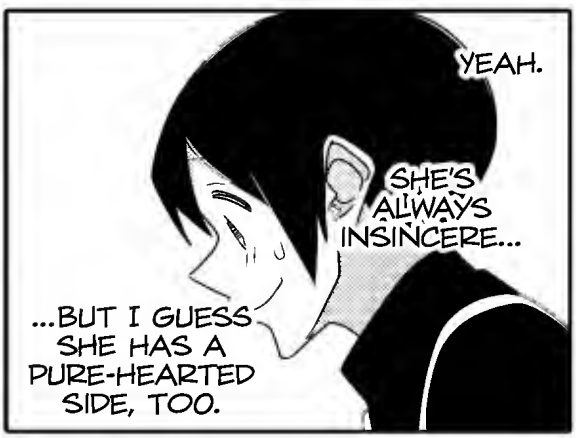
NOPE.
JUST YUKI.

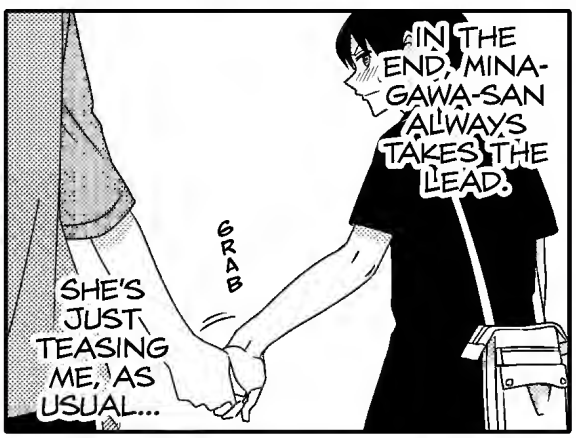

Y'KNOW, HOLDING HANDS ...
...REALLY MAKES IT FEEL LIKE WE'RE DATING, HUH?
Y-YEAH...


TH-THERE YOU GO AGAIN!
WHAT?
HOLDING HANDS IS NORMAL FOR COUPLES!

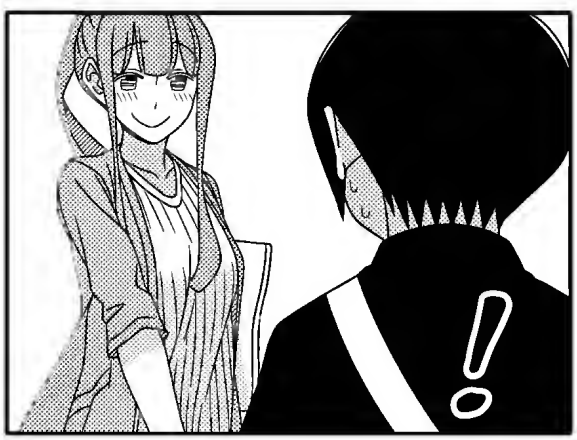

I THOUGHT SHE WAS TEASING ME...
...BUT MAYBE SHE IS JUST ENJOYING HERSELF.

AM I BEING TOO CLINGY?
NO, NOT REALLY...

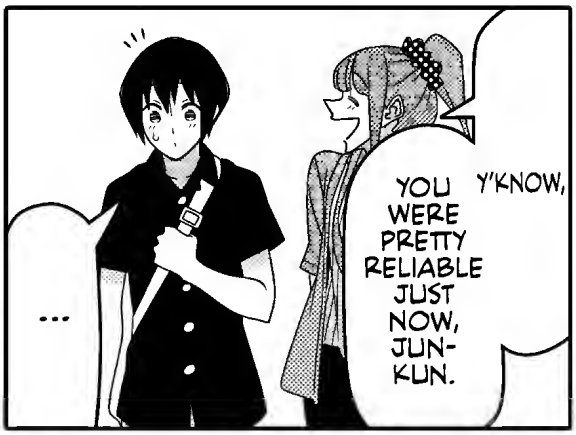

YEAH.
SHE'S ALWAYS INSINCERE...
...BUT I GUESS SHE HAS A PURE-HEARTED SIDE, TOO.


IN THE END, MINAGAWA-SAN ALWAYS TAKES THE LEAD.
GRAB
SHE'S JUST TEASING ME, AS USUAL...

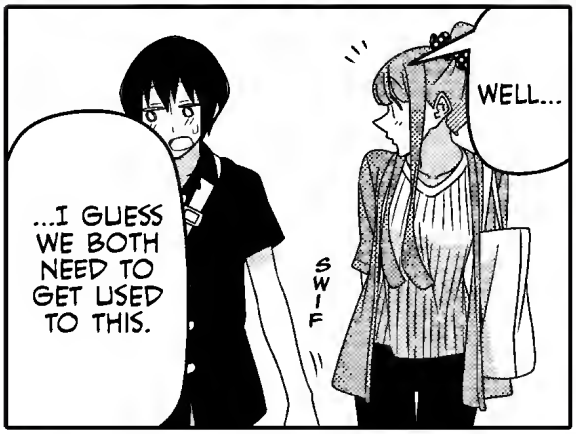
HEY.
CAN I ASK YOU TO SPOIL ME A LITTLE MORE?

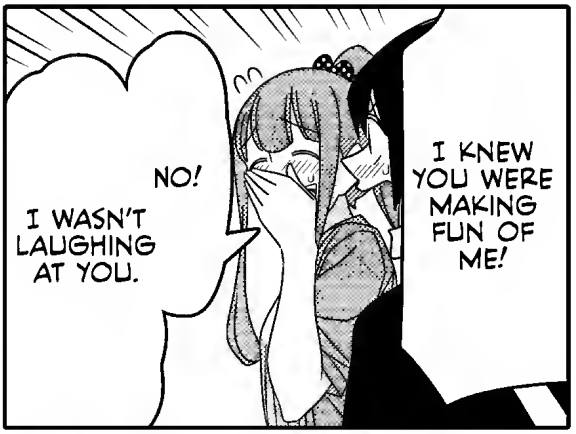

!

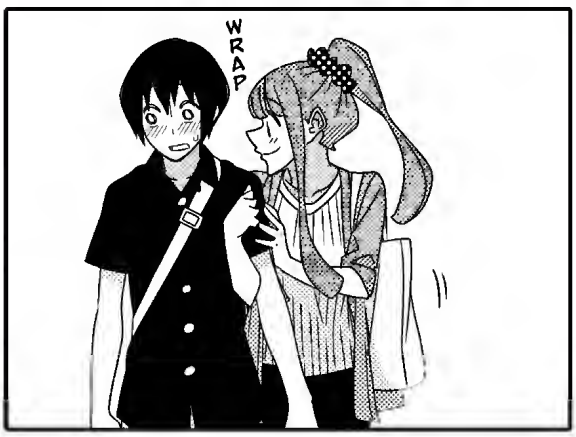
IF...
IF SHE COMES ANY CLOSER, THEN...
MO-
MORE HOW?
HMM.
LIKE...
WAIT.
WE'RE A COUPLE NOW.
IT ISN'T WEIRD IF WE KISS.
...CAN I WALK CLOSER TO YOU?
S-SURE...
THAT'S RIGHT.
AS HER BOY-FRIEND...
...I CAN'T BACK DOWN HERE.
IS THIS TOO CLOSE?
N-NO, THAT'S FINE...
PFF.
THEN...
...HOW ABOUT THIS CLOSE?


...
Y'KNOW, YOU WERE PRETTY RELIABLE JUST NOW, JUN-KUN.

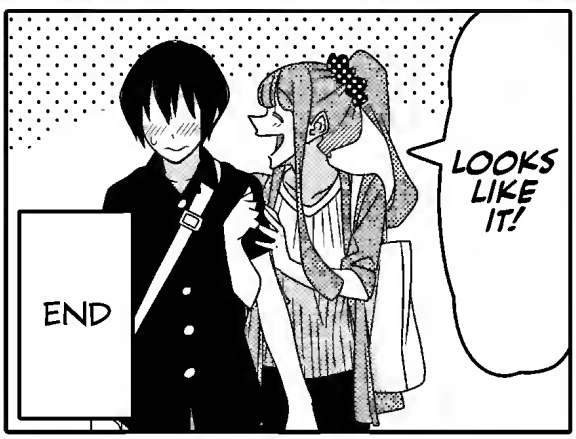
SHAKE
SHAKE
...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
SORRY! HA, HA, HA!
THIS IS JUST SO WEIRD!


WELL...
...I GUESS WE BOTH NEED TO GET USED TO THIS.
SWIF


I KNEW YOU WERE MAKING FUN OF ME!
NO! I WASN'T LAUGHING AT YOU.


WRAP

THIS IS JUST THE FIRST TIME...
...I'VE BEEN THIS CLINGY!


LOOKS LIKE IT!
END

...!

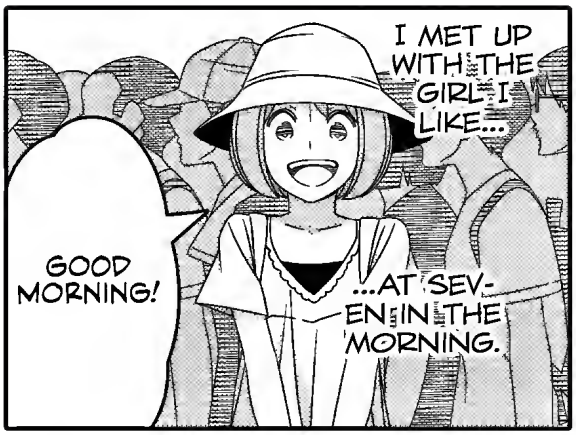
T S U r e × D U r e

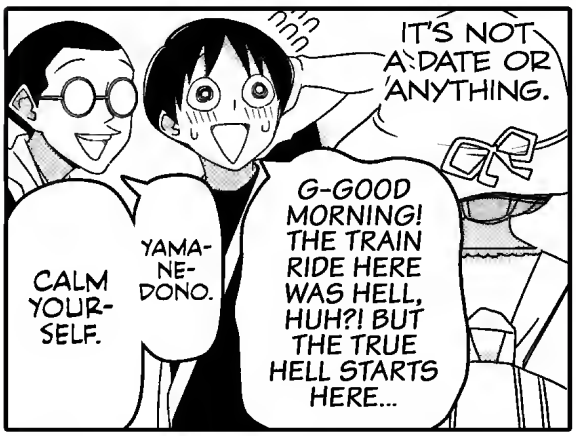
C H I L D R E N

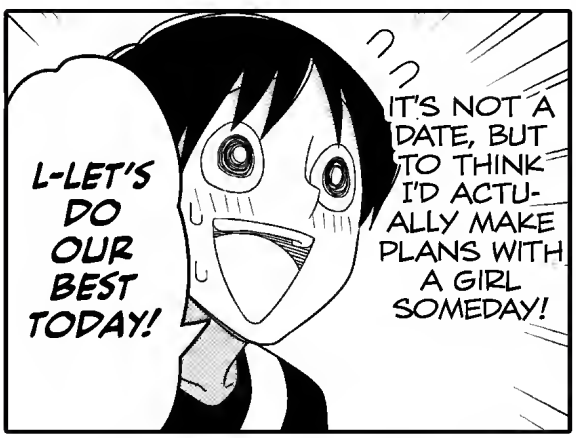
T S U ᒋ e × D U ᒋ e

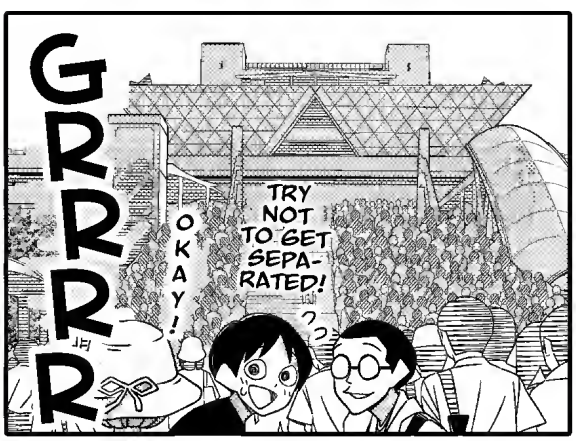
C H I L D R E N

Leading You (Part One)

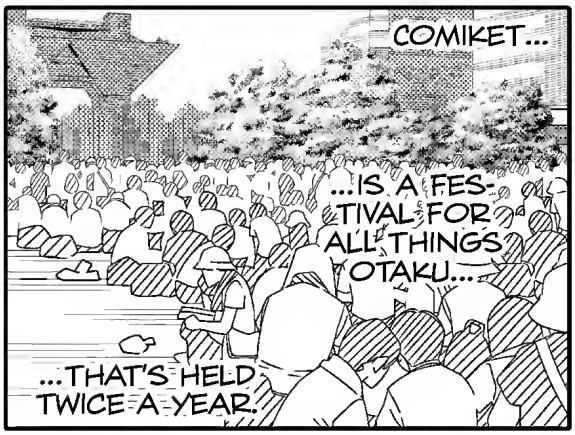




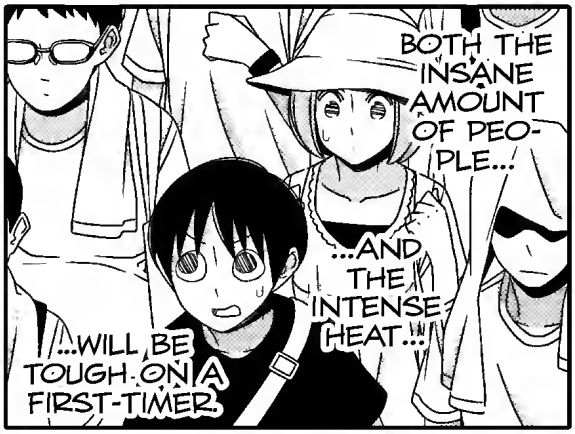


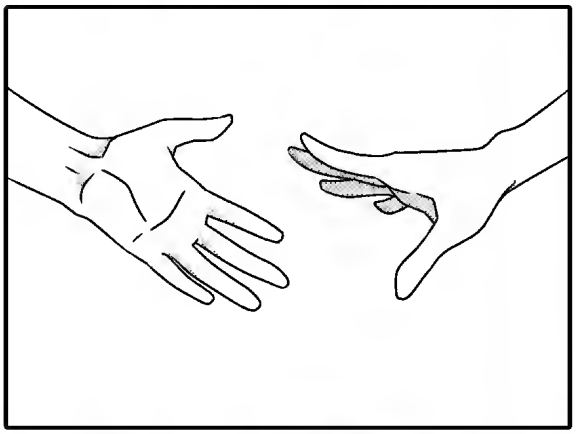


Y-YAMA-NE-SAN!
K-KURI-HARA-SAN?!
ARE YOU OKAY?

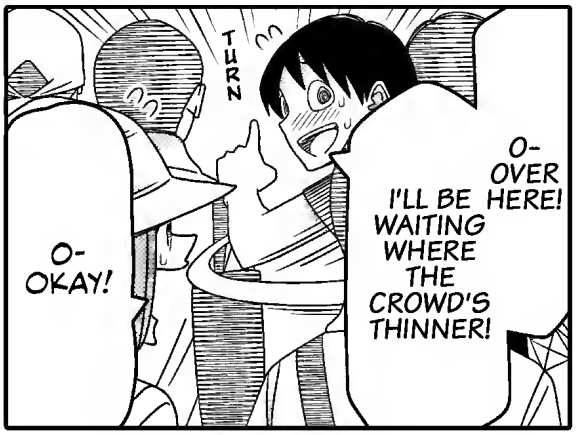

COMIKET...
...IS A FES-TIVAL FOR ALL THINGS OTAKU...
...THAT'S HELD TWICE A YEAR.

THERE ARE JUST SO MANY PEOPLE!
SORRY!


BOTH THE INSANE AMOUNT OF PEO-PLE...
...AND THE INTENSE HEAT...
...WILL BE TOUGH ON A FIRST-TIMER.

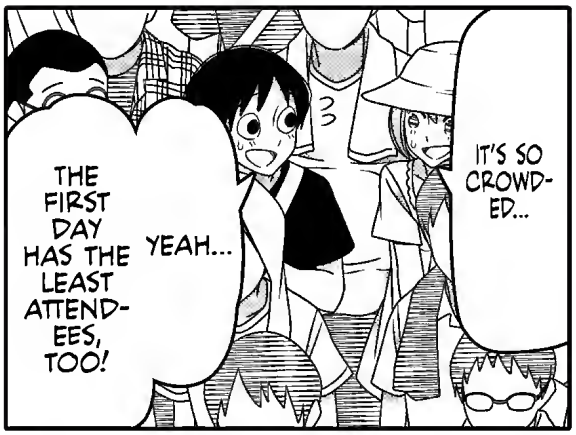


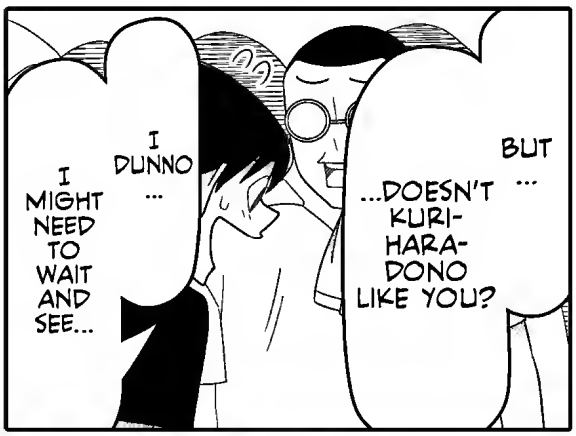
I HAVE TO PROTECT KURIHARA-SAN!
I...


O-OVER HERE! I'LL BE WAITING WHERE THE CROWD'S THINNER!
TURN
O-OKAY!

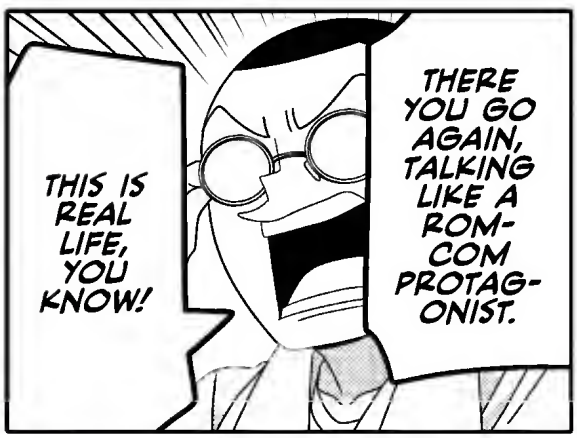
UWOOOH!
I FEEL LIKE THE MAIN CHARACTER OF SOME ANIME! MY TEEN ROM-COM CAN'T BE THIS-

YA-MANE-DONO,
WHY DON'T YOU TRY BEING MORE ASSERTIVE?
NO, NO, NO, NO!
I DON'T WANNA COME OFF THE WRONG WAY...


IT'S SO CROWD-ED...
YEAH...
THE FIRST DAY HAS THE LEAST ATTEND-EES, TOO!


BUT ...
...DOESN'T KURI-HARA-DONO LIKE YOU?
I DUNNO ...
I MIGHT NEED TO WAIT AND SEE...

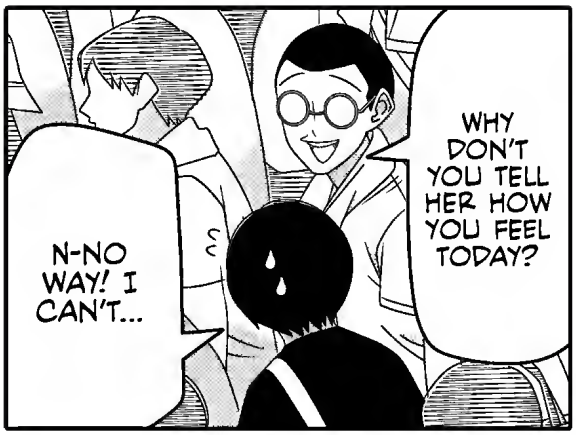
THE LINE WON'T MOVE FOR A WHILE,
SO NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO USE THE REST-ROOM.
OH, THEN...

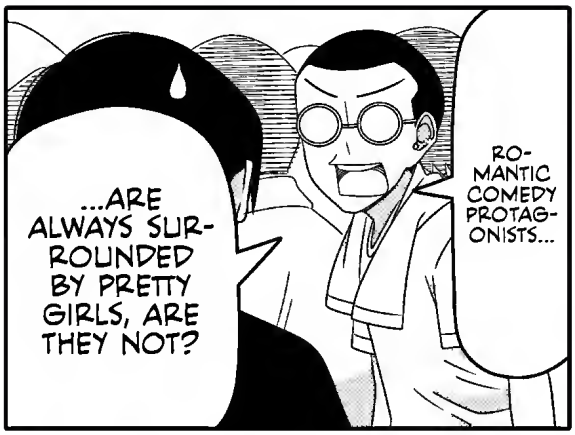

THERE YOU GO AGAIN, TALKING LIKE A ROM-COM PROTAG-ONIST.
THIS IS REAL LIFE, YOU KNOW!

OH!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO GET LOST, SO...

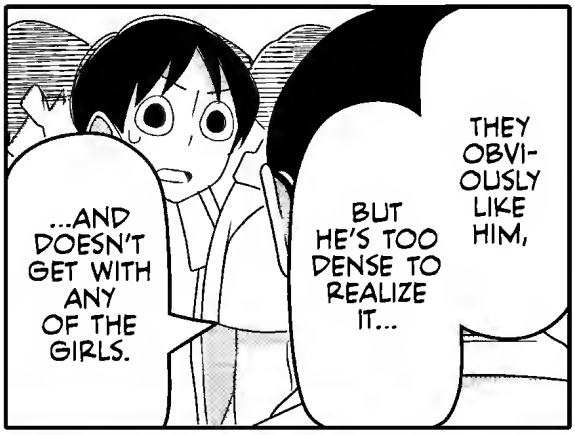
!

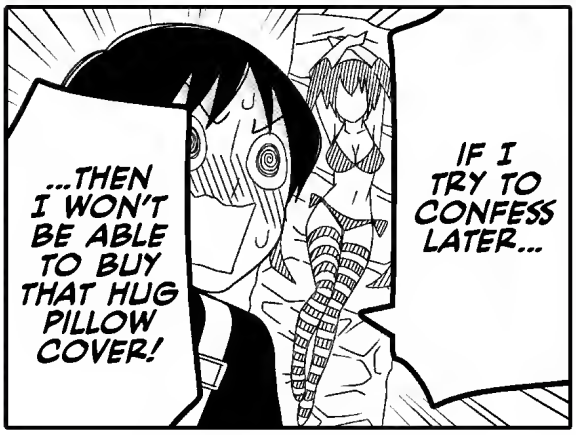
...MA-
MAKE SURE YOU REMEM-BER WHERE WE ARE!
YAMA-NE-DONO, PERHAPS YOU SHOULD GO WITH—
BE CARE-FUL!

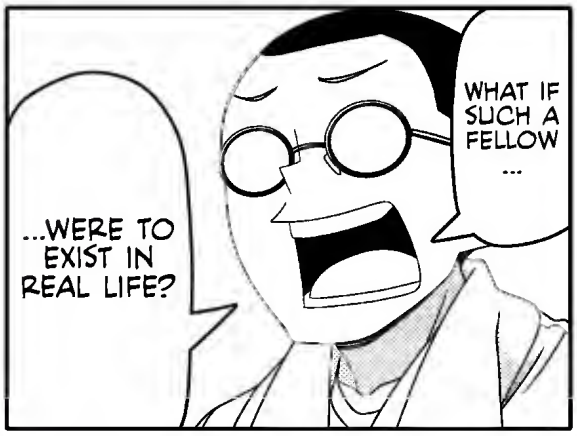

WHY DON'T YOU TELL HER HOW YOU FEEL TODAY?
N-NO WAY! I CAN'T...

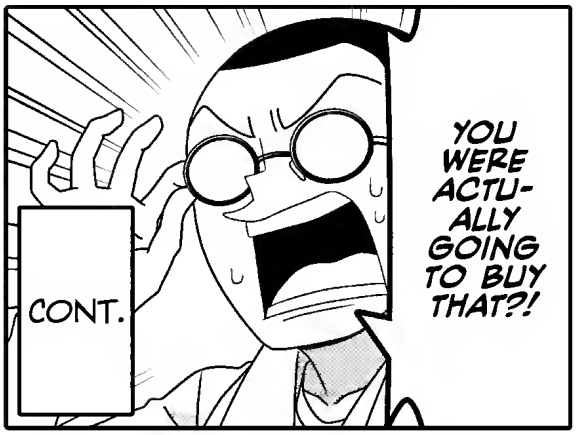

RO-MANTIC COMEDY PROTAG-ONISTS...
...ARE ALWAYS SUR-ROUNDED BY PRETTY GIRLS, ARE THEY NOT?

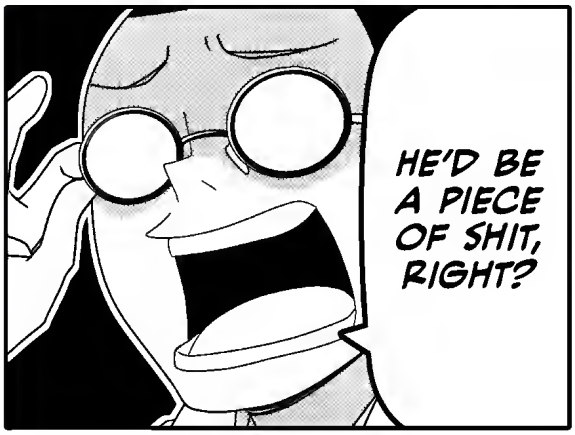
DON'T WORRY.
I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE, SO...


THEY OBVI-OUSLY LIKE HIM,
BUT HE'S TOO DENSE TO REALIZE IT...
...AND DOESN'T GET WITH ANY OF THE GIRLS.

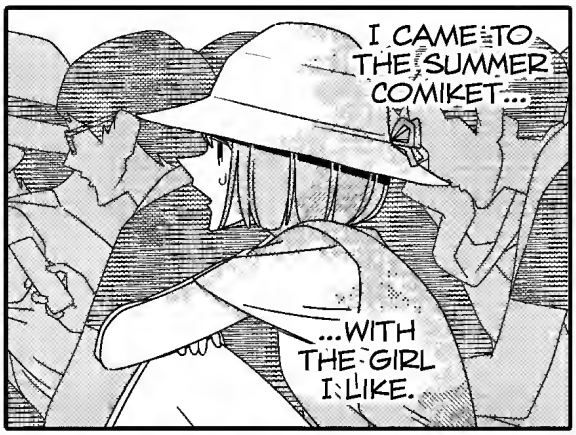

IF I TRY TO CONFESS LATER...
...THEN I WON'T BE ABLE TO BUY THAT HUG PILLOW COVER!

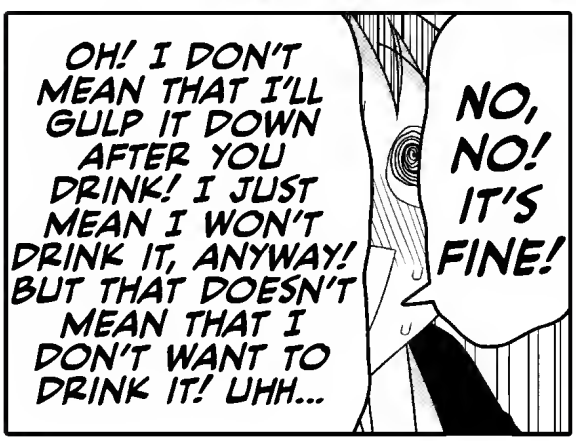

WHAT IF SUCH A FELLOW ...
...WERE TO EXIST IN REAL LIFE?

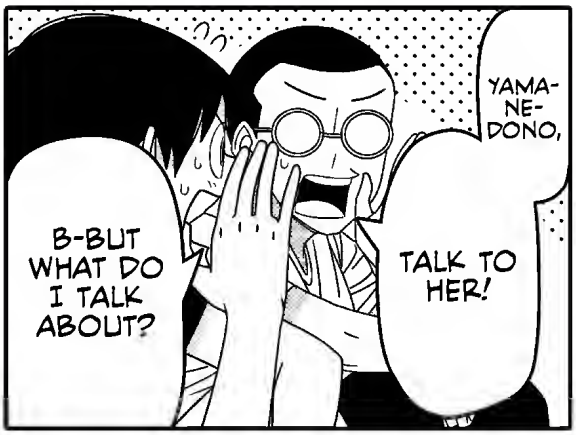

YOU WERE ACTU-ALLY GOING TO BUY THAT?!
CONT.


HE'D BE A PIECE OF SHIT, RIGHT?

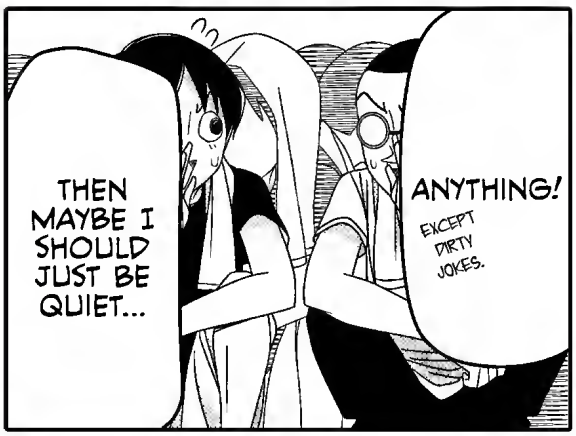
Leading You (Part Two)

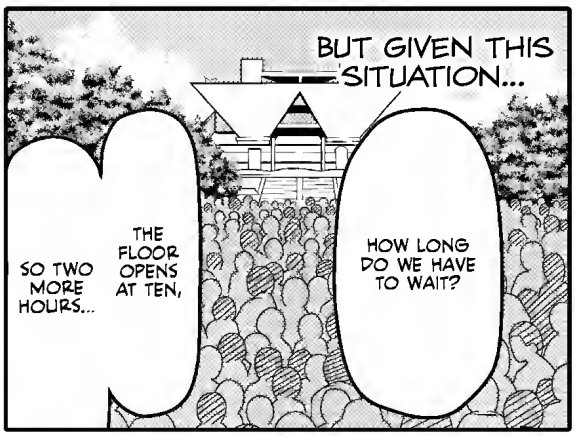




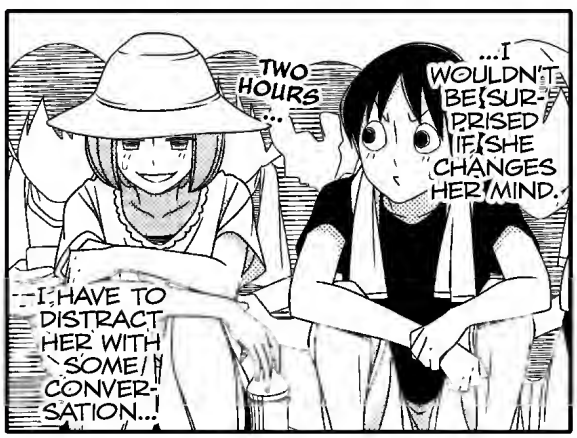

YAMA-NE-DONO,
TALK TO HER!
B-BUT WHAT DO I TALK ABOUT?

SUPPOSEDLY...
GULP
GULP
...KURIHARA-SAN LIKES ME, TOO.

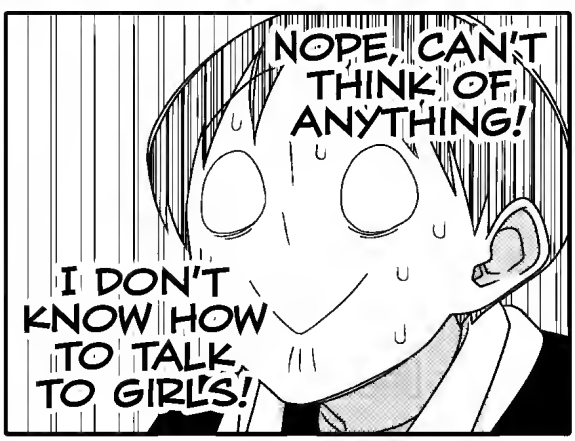

ANYTHING!
EXCEPT DIRTY JOKES.
THEN MAYBE I SHOULD JUST BE QUIET...

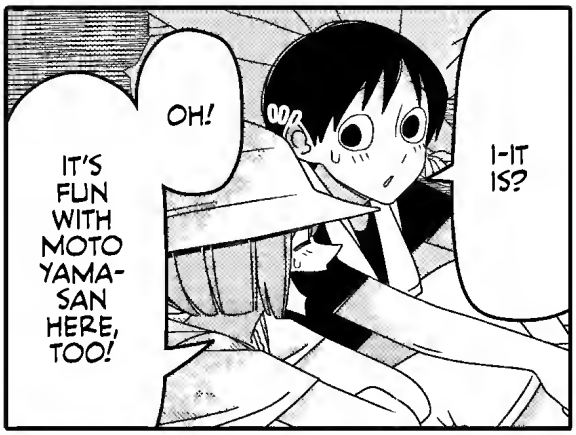

BUT GIVEN THIS SITUATION...
HOW LONG DO WE HAVE TO WAIT?
THE FLOOR OPENS AT TEN,
SO TWO MORE HOURS...

YAMA-NE-DONO!
AREN'T YOU GOING...
...TO CONFESS TO KURI-HARA-DONO TODAY?

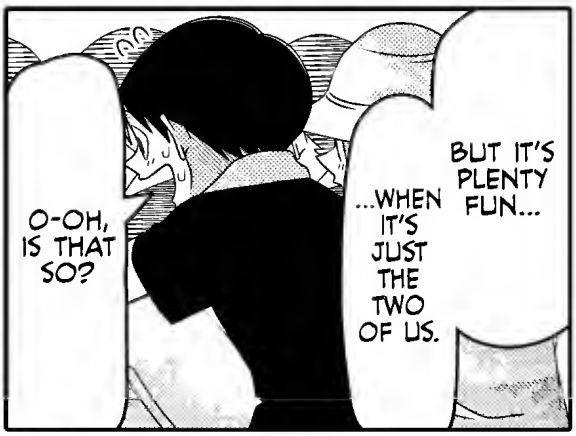

TWO HOURS...
...I WOULDN'T BE SUR-PRISED IF SHE CHANGES HER MIND.
I HAVE TO DISTRACT HER WITH SOME CONVER-SATION...!

!

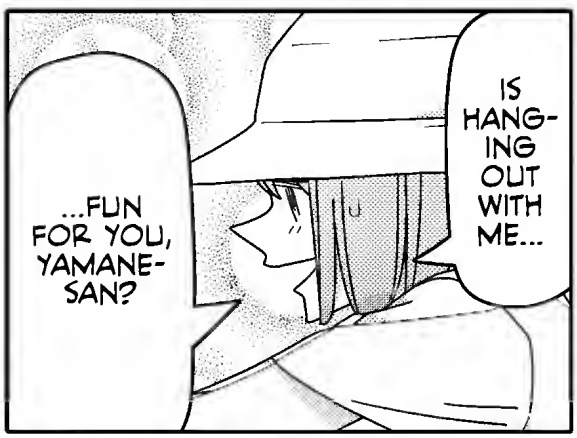

NOPE, CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK TO GIRLS!


I'LL GO TO THE BATH-ROOM.
GOOD LUCK.
HUH?! MOTO-YAMA-KUN!

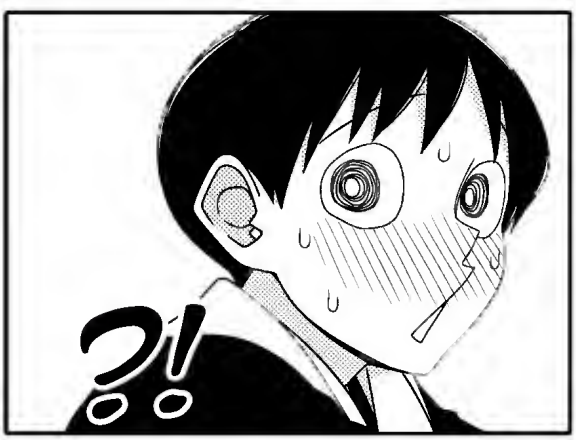
I-IT IS?
OH! IT'S FUN WITH MOTO YAMA-SAN HERE, TOO!


THE LINE FOR THE BATH-ROOM WAS REALLY LONG.
HE MIGHT NOT BE BACK FOR A WHOLE HOUR...
! GASP

BUT IT'S PLENTY FUN...
...WHEN IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.
O-OH, IS THAT SO?


S-SOR-RY!
IT'S AWK-WARD WITH JUST THE TWO OF US, HUH?!
WHAT NOW? WANNA TAKE A NAP?!

IS HANG-ING OUT WITH ME...
...FUN FOR YOU, YAMANE-SAN?

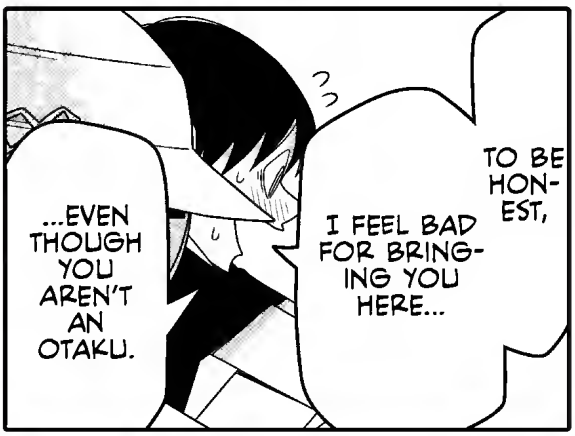

WHY?
IT'S FUN HANGING OUT WITH YOU.

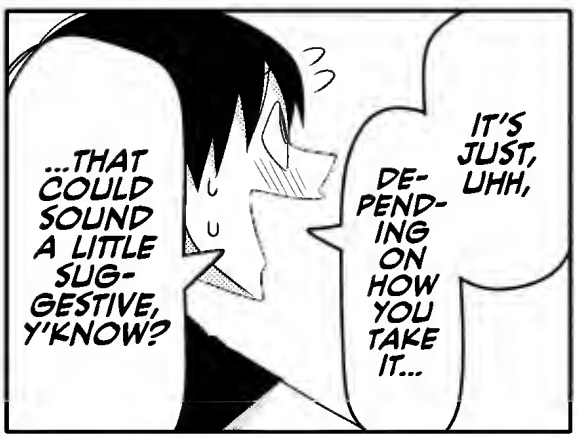
?!

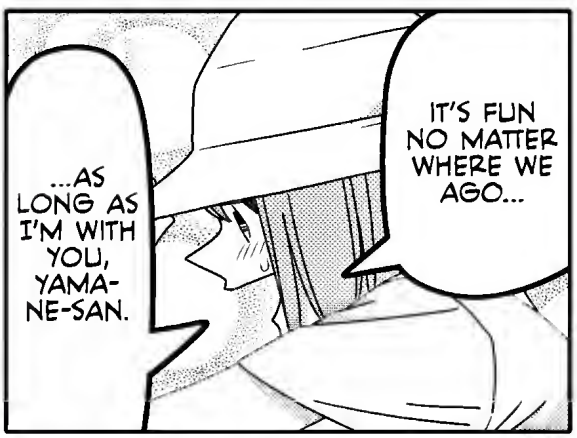
...HUH?
WAS THAT A CONFESSION? NO?
IF NOT, THEN WHAT IS?

I ACTUALLY THOUGHT I MIGHT BE BOTHERING YOU...
...BY COMING ALONG TODAY.
N-NO, NOT AT ALL!

OH,
SORRY IF THAT SOUNDED WEIRD.
N-NO PROBLEM.
IT'S TOTALLY FINE!


TO BE HONEST,
I FEEL BAD FOR BRINGING YOU HERE...
...EVEN THOUGH YOU AREN'T AN OTAKU.

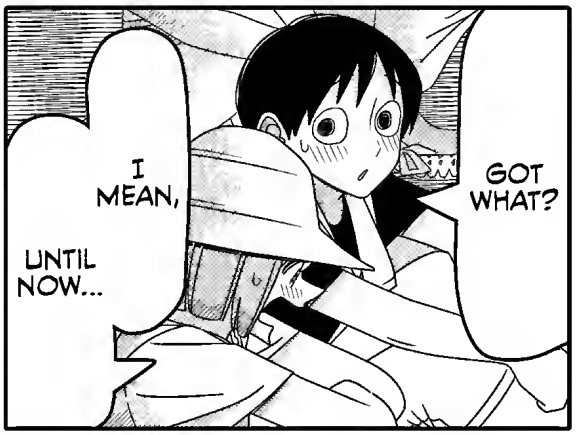

IT'S JUST, UHH,
DEPENDING ON HOW YOU TAKE IT...
...THAT COULD SOUND A LITTLE SUGGESTIVE, Y'KNOW?


IT'S FUN NO MATTER WHERE WE AGO...
...AS LONG AS I'M WITH YOU, YAMANE-SAN.

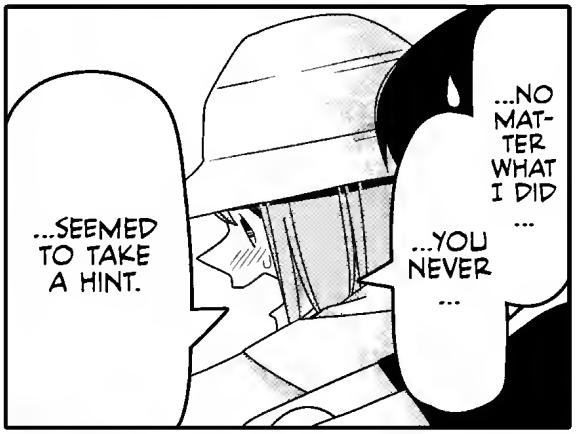
WAIT.
YOU GOT THAT?

?!

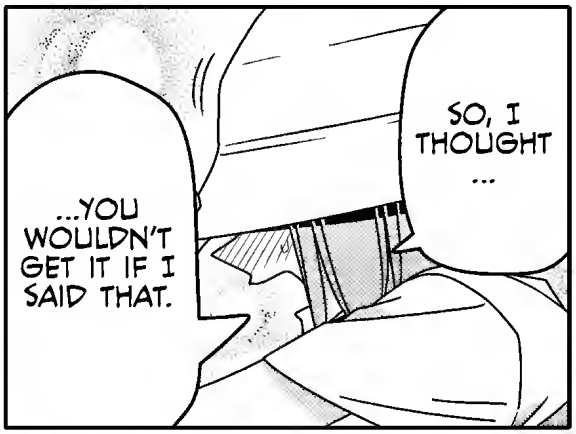
I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW,
BUT IT'S FINE!
DON'T MIND ME!

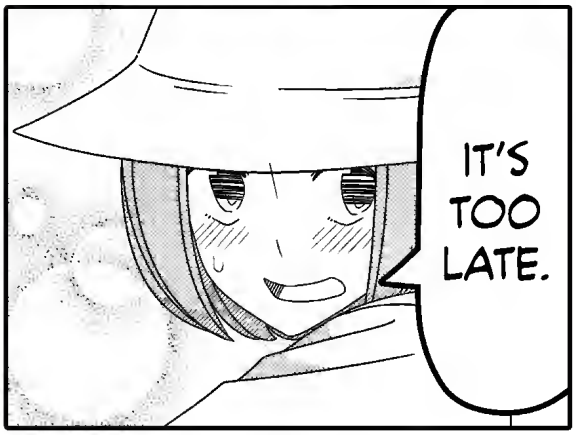

GOT WHAT?
I MEAN,
UNTIL NOW...

SAFE!
I ALMOST MADE KURIHARA-SAN FEEL SUPER EMBARRASSED!
I SHOULD JUST PLAY DUMB AND...

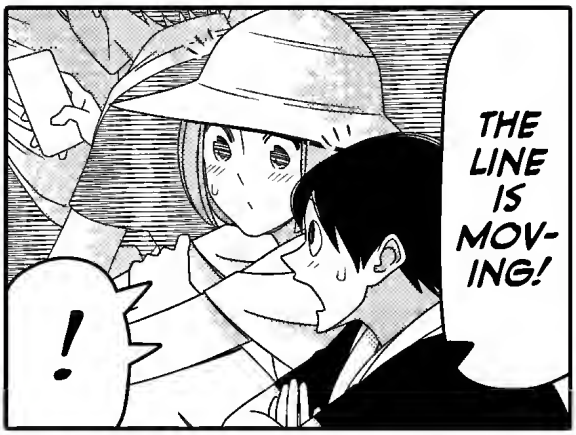

...NO MAT-TER WHAT I DID ...
...YOU NEVER ...
...SEEMED TO TAKE A HINT.

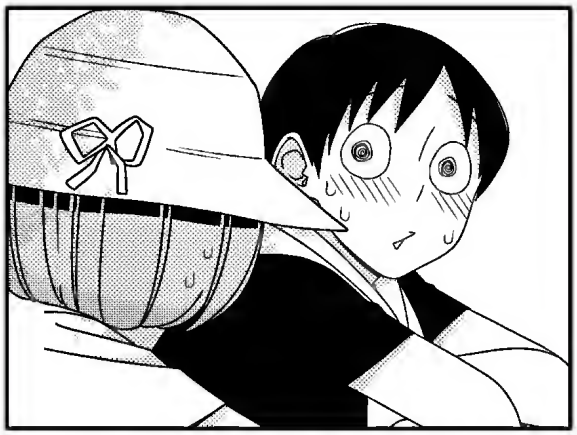
YA-MANE-SAN.

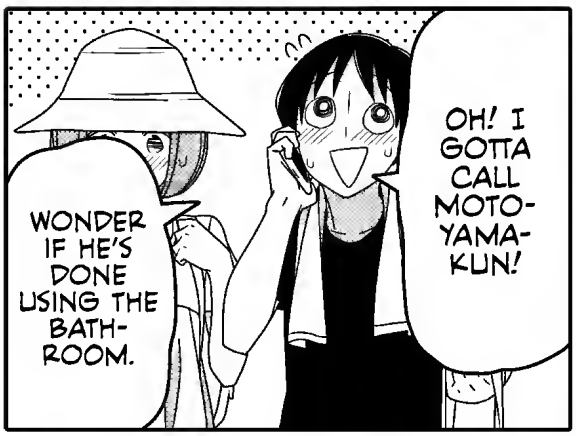

SO, I THOUGHT ...
...YOU WOULDN'T GET IT IF I SAID THAT.

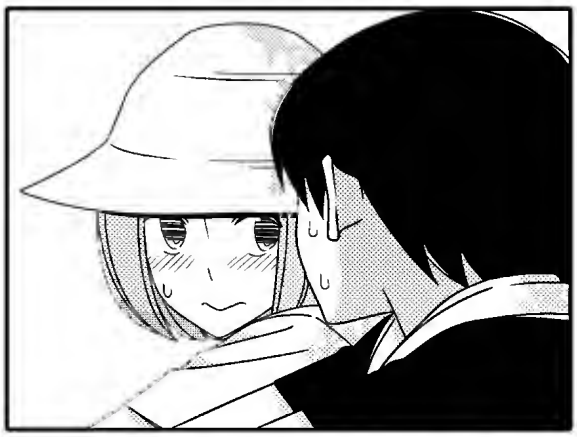

IT'S TOO LATE.

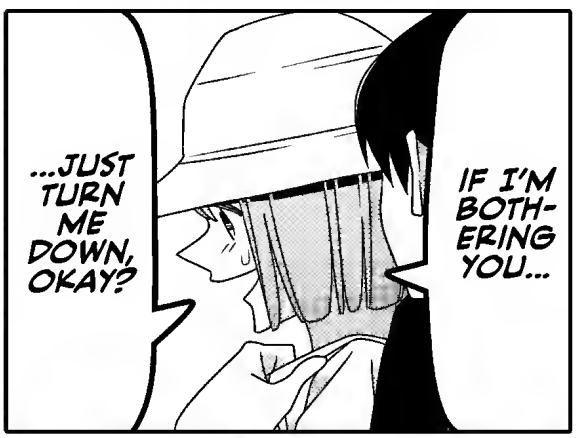
GE-
GET WHAT?

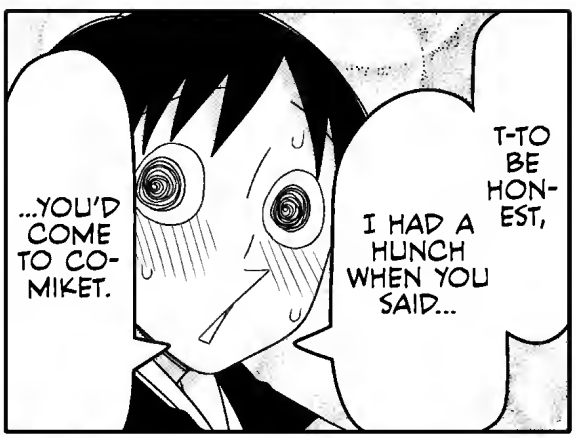

THE LINE IS MOV-ING!
!

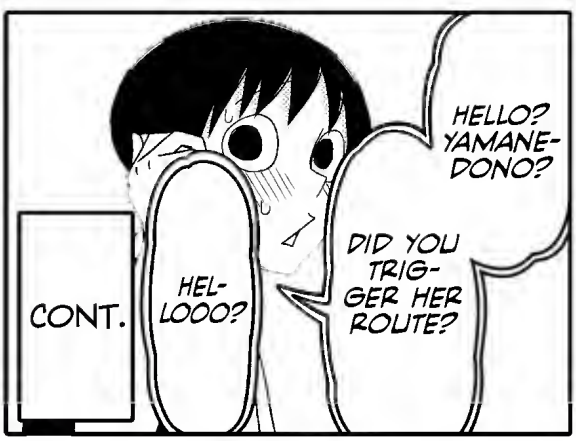


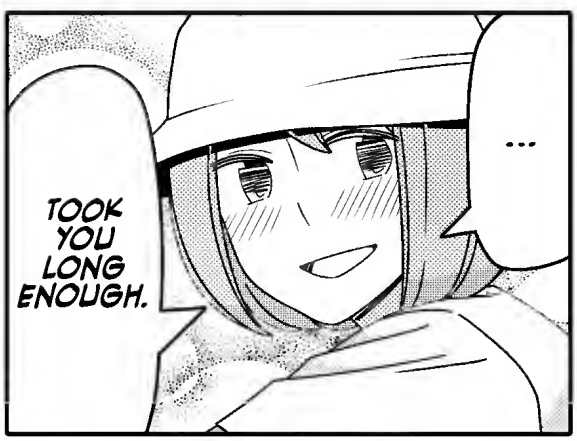

OH! I GOTTA CALL MOTO-YAMA-KUN!
WONDER IF HE'S DONE USING THE BATH-ROOM.



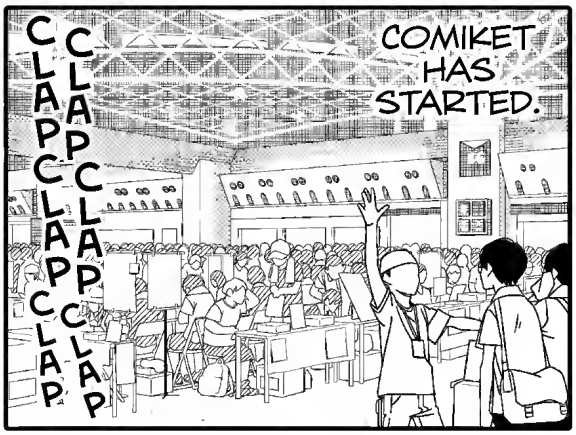

IF I'M BOTH-ERING YOU...
...JUST TURN ME DOWN, OKAY?

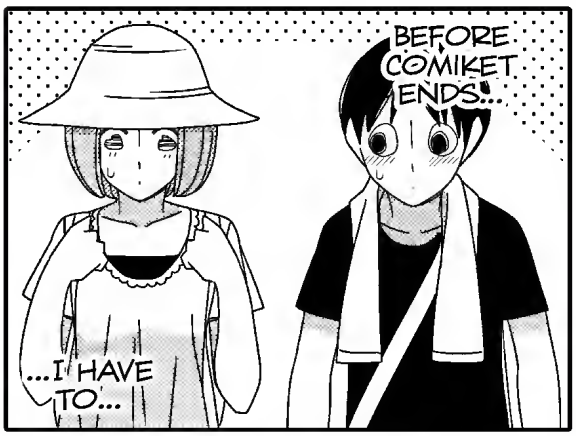

T-TO BE HON-EST,
I HAD A HUNCH WHEN YOU SAID...
...YOU'D COME TO CO-MIKET.

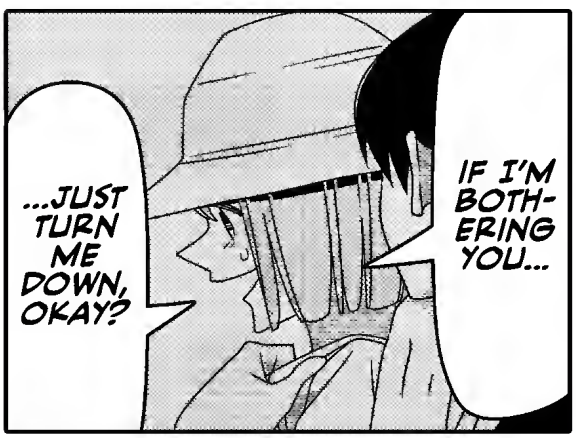

HELLO? YAMANE-DONO?
DID YOU TRIG-GER HER ROUTE?
HEL-LOOO?
CONT.

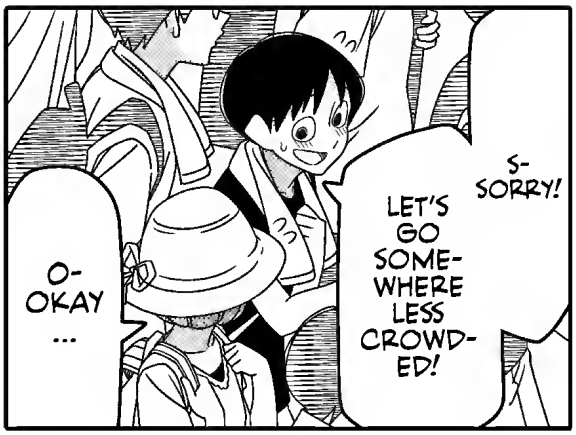

...
TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.

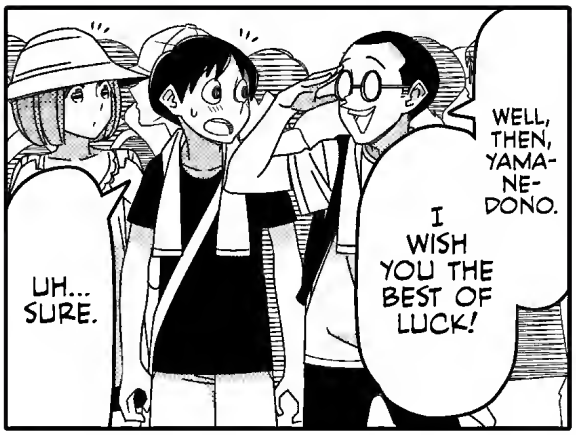
Leading You (Part Three)

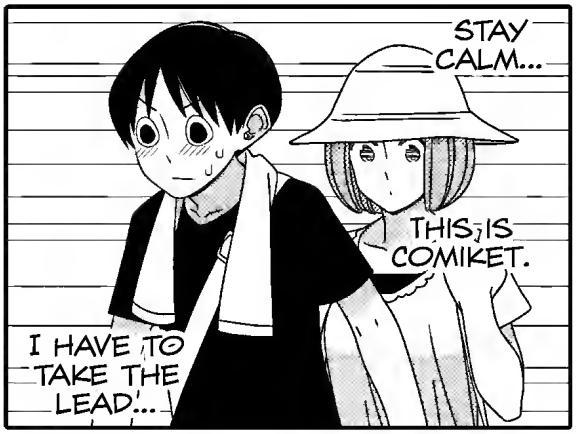


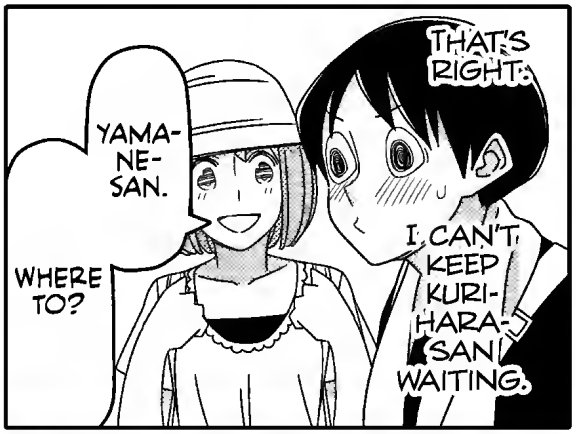


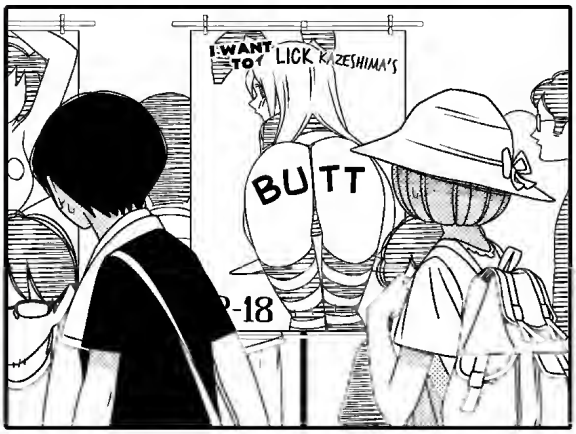



S-SORRY!
LET'S GO SOMEWHERE LESS CROWDED!
O-OKAY...

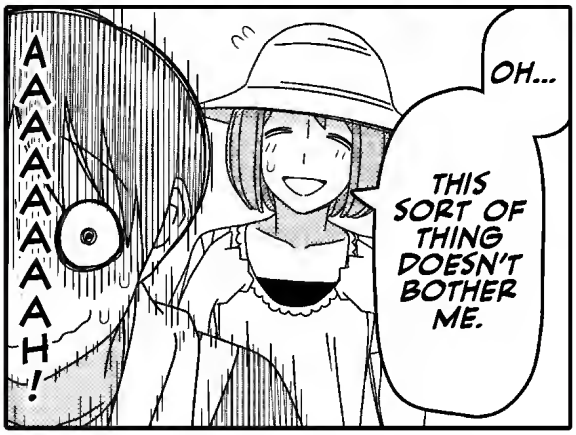

WELL, THEN, YAMANE-DONO.
I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK!
UH... SURE.

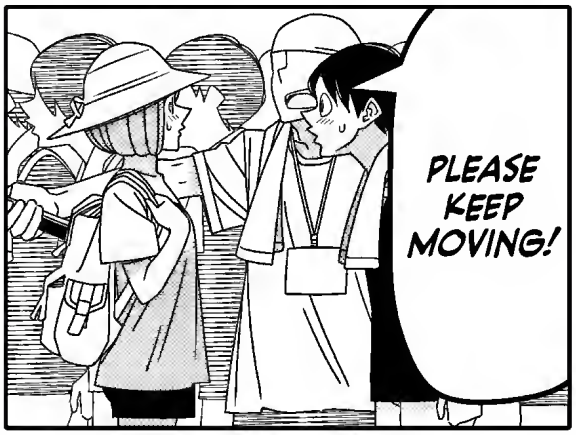

STAY CALM...
THIS IS COMIKET.
I HAVE TO TAKE THE LEAD...

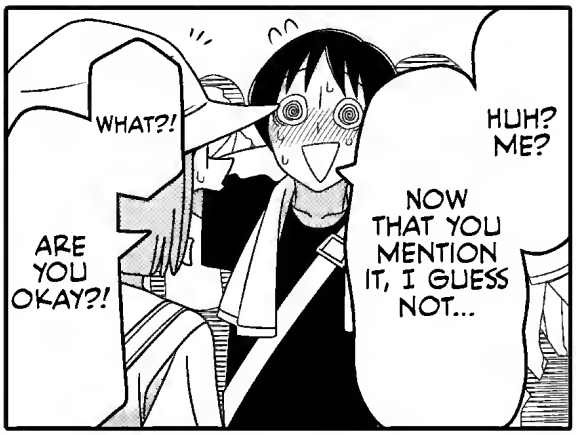

THAT'S RIGHT.
YAMANE-SAN.
I CAN'T KEEP KURIHARA-SAN WAITING.
WHERE TO?

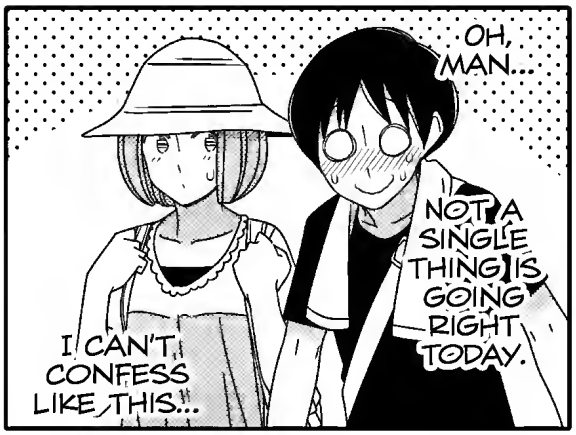

I WANT TO LICK KAZESHIMA'S
BUTT
-18

UMM...
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA...


AAAAAAAAAH!
OH...
THIS SORT OF THING DOESN'T BOTHER ME.

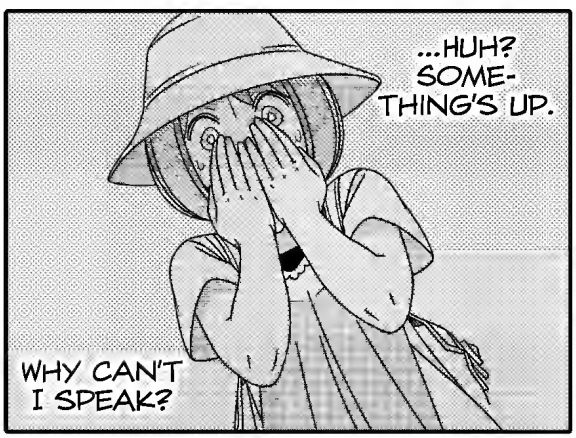

PLEASE KEEP MOVING!


WHAT?!
ARE YOU OKAY?!
HUH? ME?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I GUESS NOT...

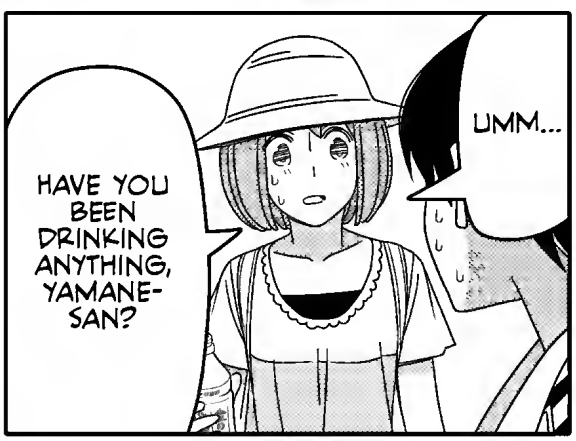

OH, MAN...
I CAN'T CONFESS LIKE THIS...
NOT A SINGLE THING IS GOING RIGHT TODAY.

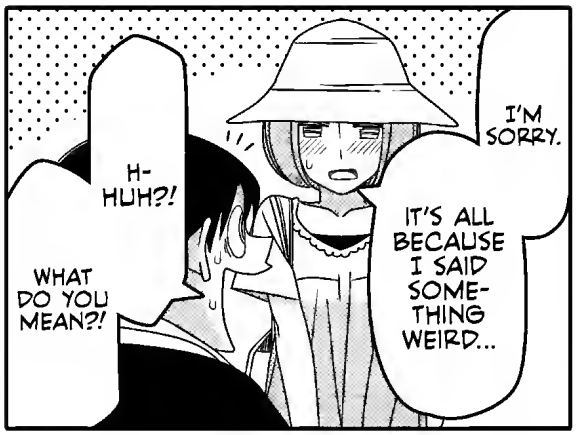
WHY AM I MAKING HER WORRY?!
IF I WANT TO CONFESS TO HER...
...I HAVE TO MAKE MYSELF LOOK GOOD SOMEHOW!

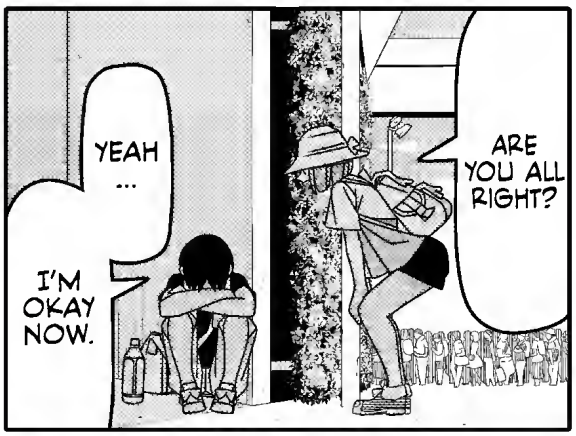
Y-YES!
I STILL HAVE THE TEA YOU GAVE ME...
OH! DO YOU HAVE A DRINK?
AT ANY RATE, I HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING...


...HUH? SOMETHING'S UP.
WHY CAN'T I SPEAK?

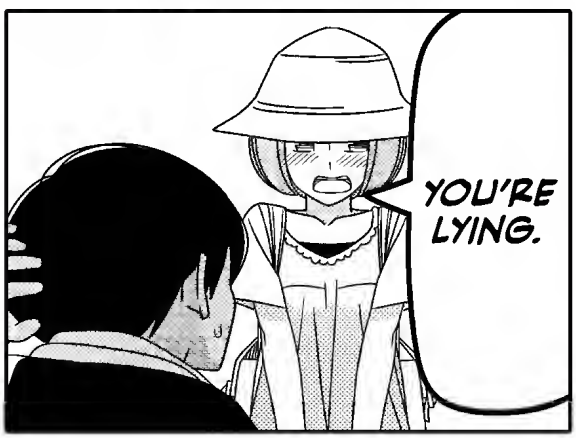
CRAP. THAT HAS TO BE THE HUNDREDTH TIME I'VE SAID THAT TODAY.
I GOTTA THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE!

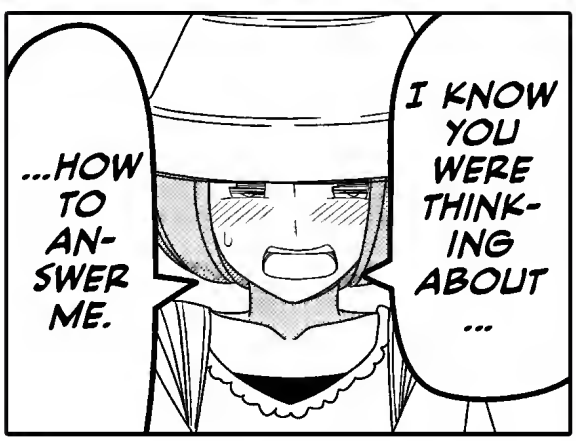

UMM...
HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING ANYTHING, YAMANE-SAN?

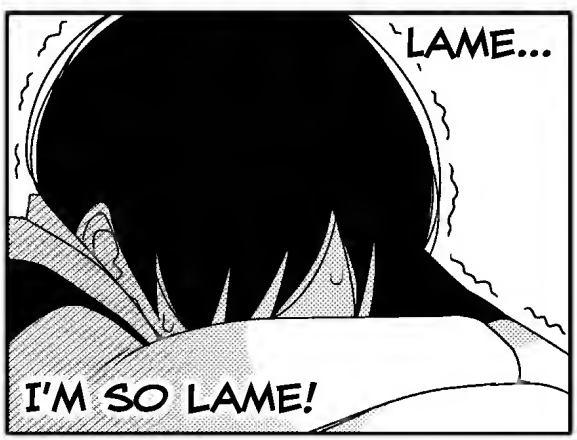


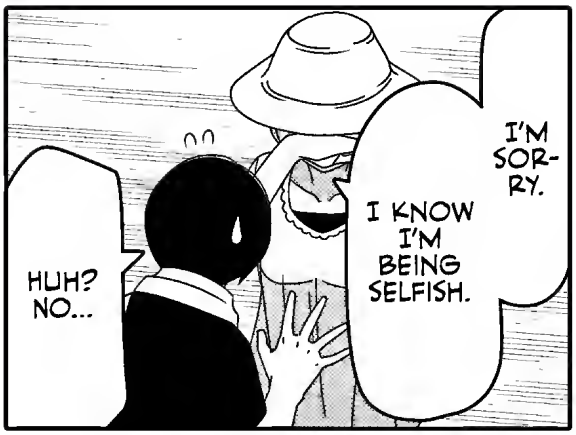


*DOUJINSHI: SELF-PUBLISHED COMICS AND OTHER WORKS.

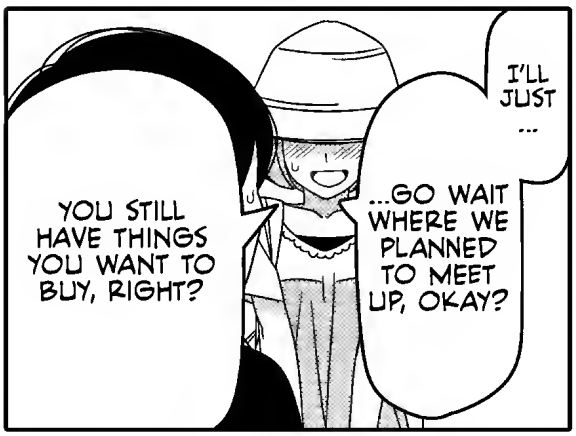


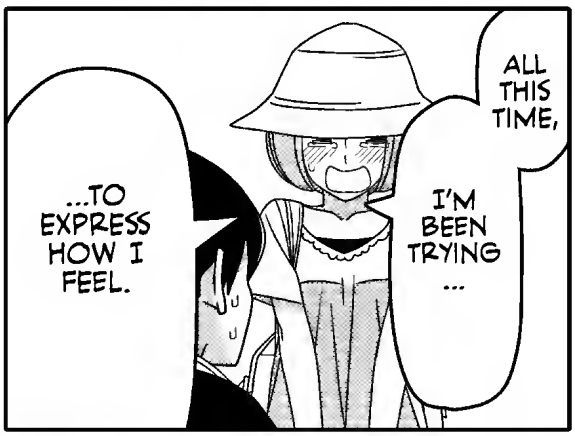




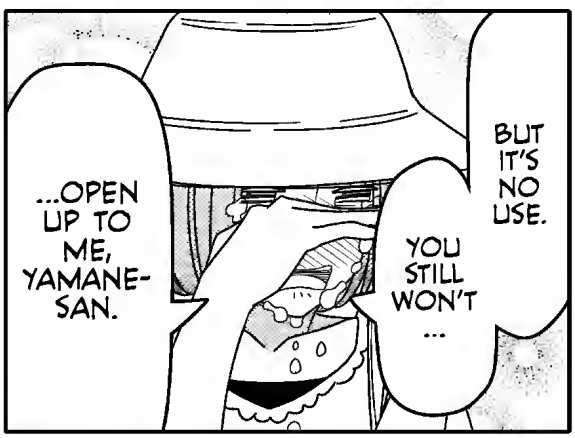

I'M SORRY.
I KNOW I'M BEING SELFISH.
HUH? NO...

YAMANE-SAN, YOU'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO BE CONSIDERATE OF ME, AREN'T YOU?
N-NO! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO...


I'LL JUST ...
...GO WAIT WHERE WE PLANNED TO MEET UP, OKAY?
YOU STILL HAVE THINGS YOU WANT TO BUY, RIGHT?

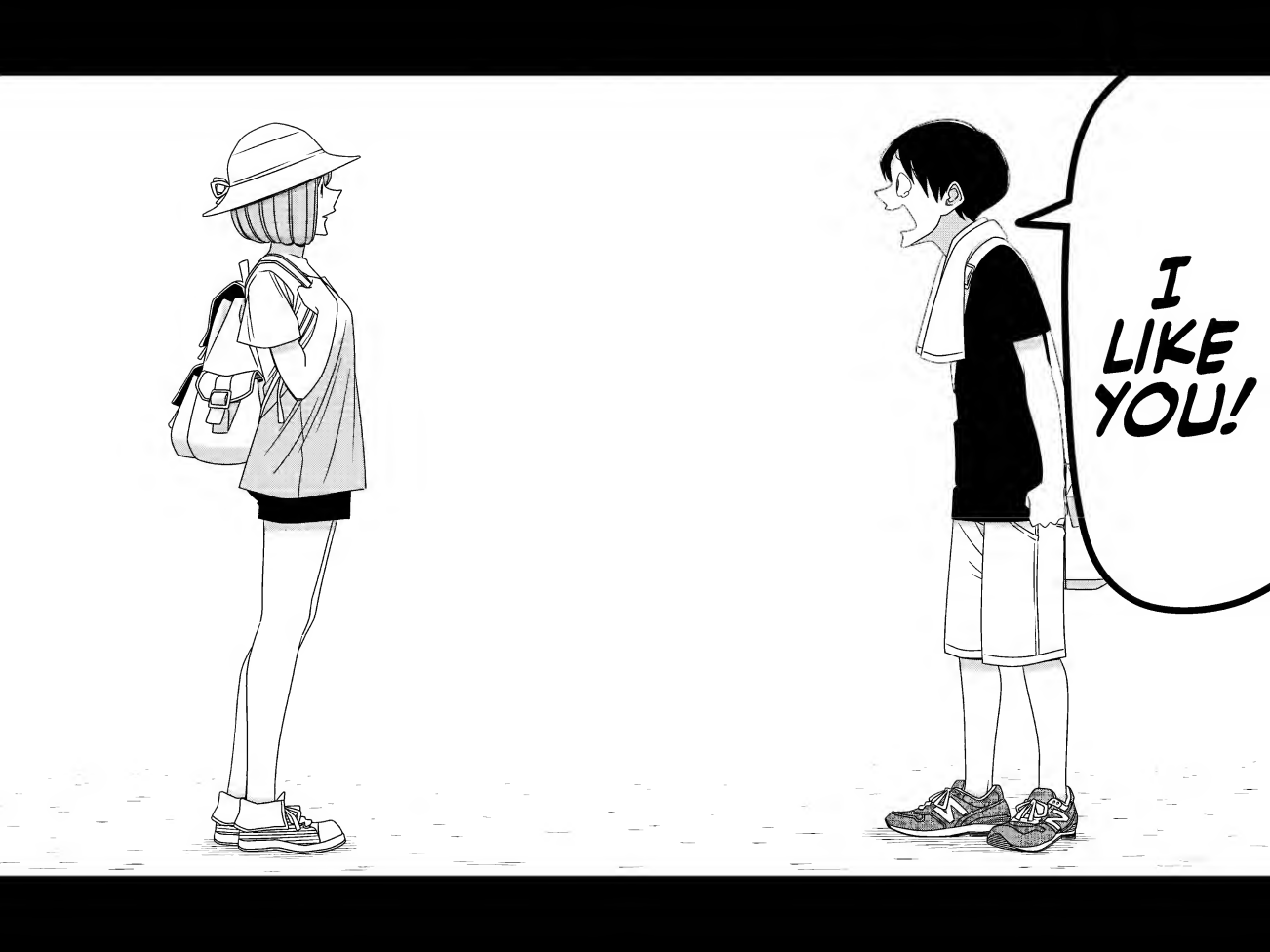

ALL THIS TIME, I'M BEEN TRYING ...
...TO EXPRESS HOW I FEEL.

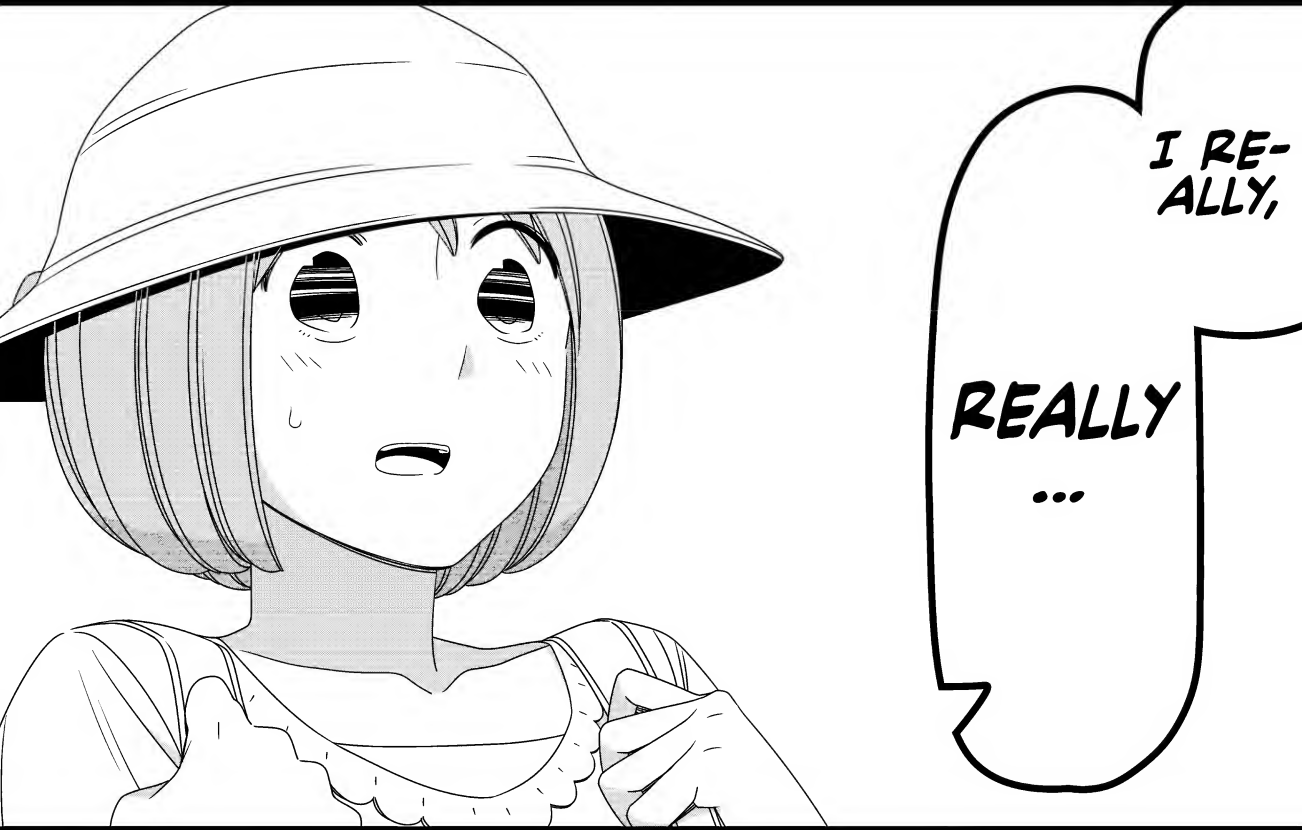
I'LL BE FINE ON MY OWN.
MAKE SURE YOU STAY HYDRATED...

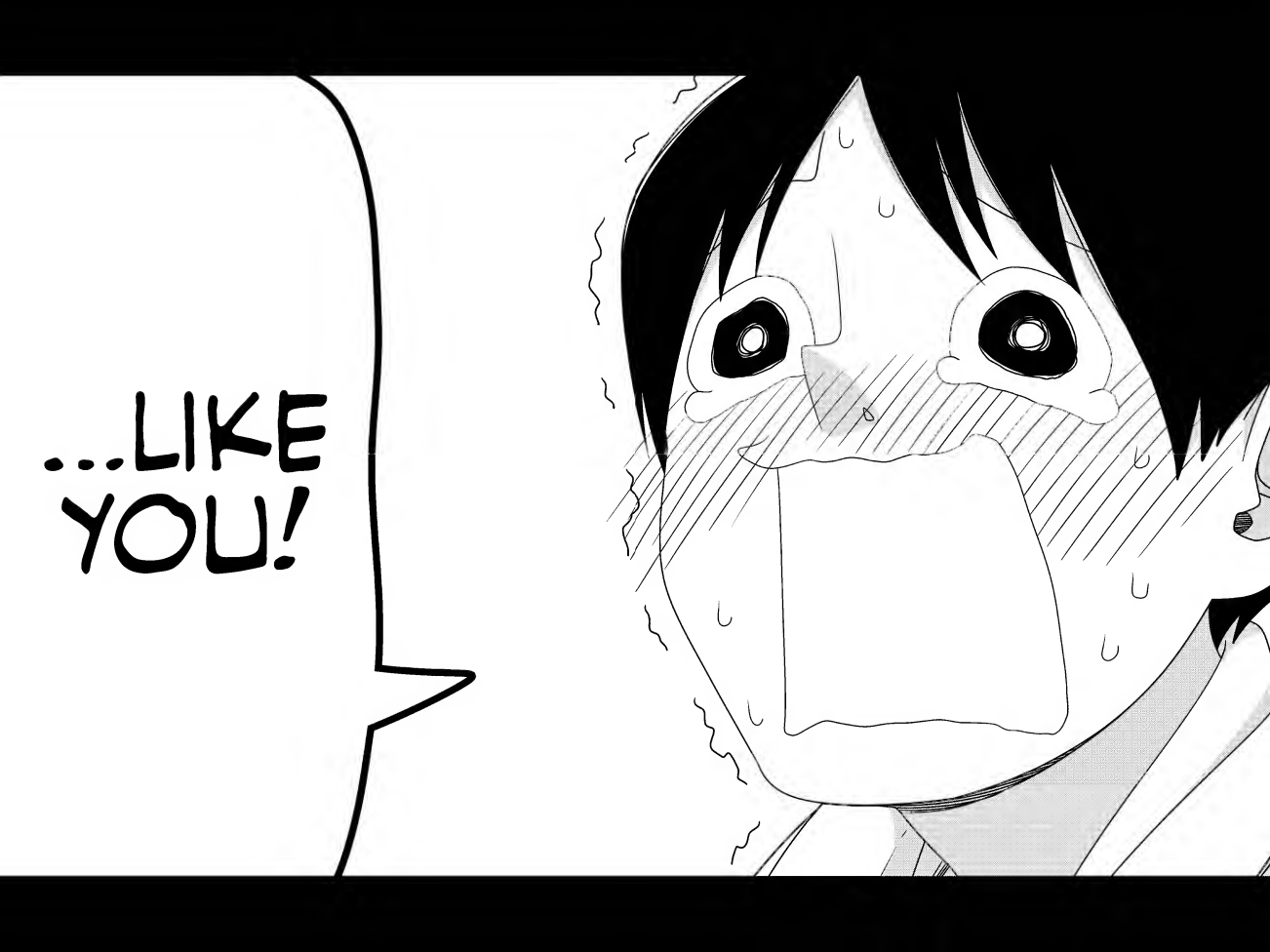

BUT IT'S NO USE. YOU STILL WON'T ...
...OPEN UP TO ME, YAMANE-SAN.

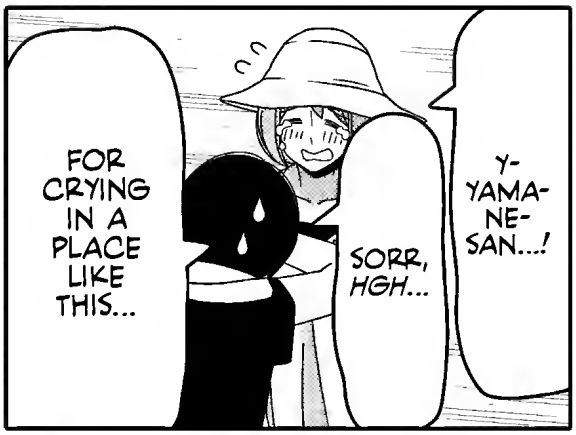
KURIHARA-SAN!

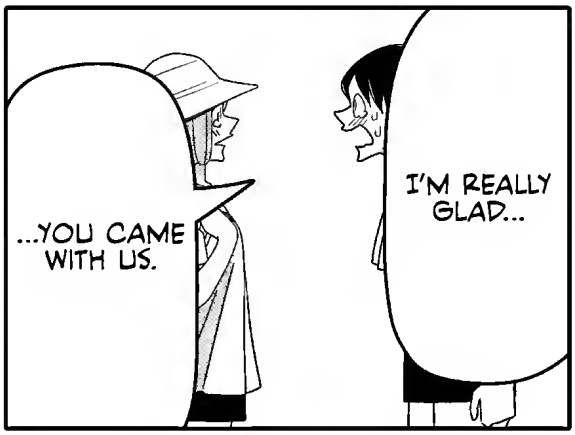
!

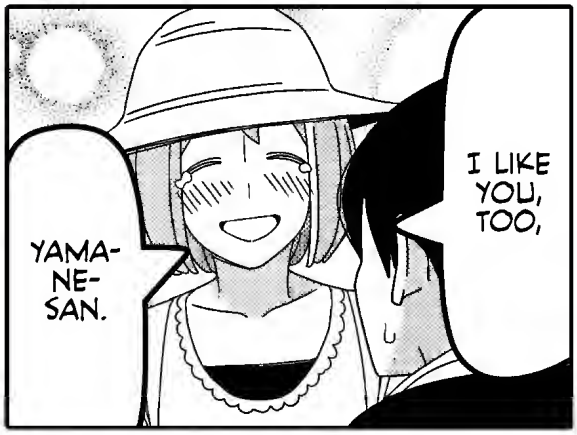

I LIKE YOU!

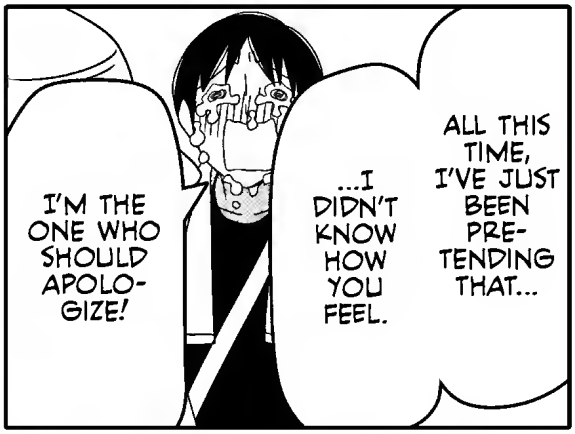

I RE-
ALLY,
REALLY
...

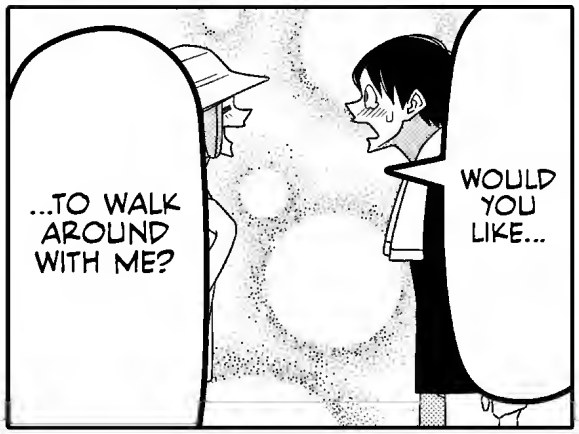

...LIKE YOU!

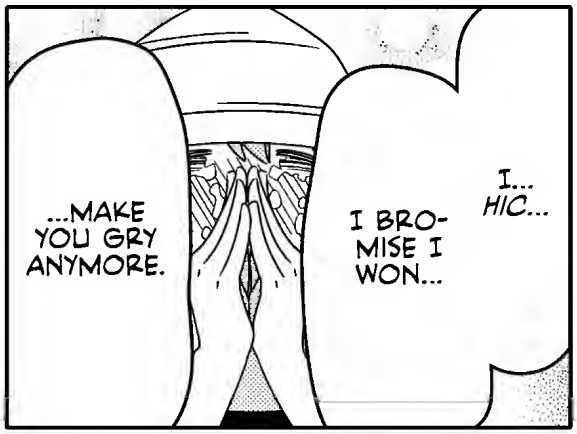

Y-YAMA-NE-SAN...!
SORR, HGH...
FOR CRYING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...

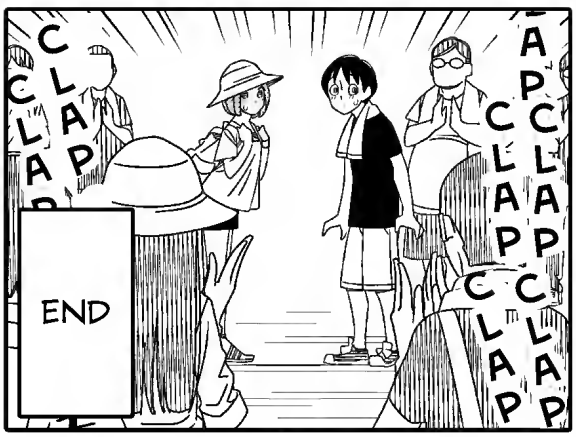

I'M REALLY GLAD...
...YOU CAME WITH US.

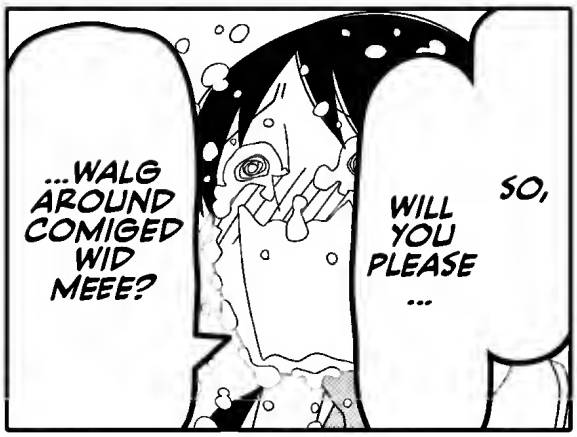

I LIKE YOU, TOO,
YAMA-NE-SAN.


ALL THIS TIME, I'VE JUST BEEN PRE-TENDING THAT...
...I DIDN'T KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLO-GIZE!


WOULD YOU LIKE...
...TO WALK AROUND WITH ME?


I... HIC...
I BRO-MISE I WON...
...MAKE YOU GRY ANYMORE.


CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
END


SO,
WILL YOU PLEASE ...
...WALG AROUND COMIGED WID MEEE?

T S U r e × D U r e

C H I L D R E N

character introduction

Q. "DO YOU THINK SPIRITS AND MONSTERS ARE REAL?"

Saki Kanda
Class 2-1, Soft Tennis Club

N-no way! Definitely not!

Yuki Minagawa
Class 2-1, Class Rep, Soft Tennis Club

BOO! ↓

Hotaru Furuya
Class 1-3

Gaaaah! What?! Hey! Ugh, I hate you!

Takuro Sugawara
Class 2-4, Soccer Club

(I'M ACTUALLY NOT SO GOOD WITH HORROR...) →

Kaoru Nanase
Class 1-9, Astronomy Club

(Leave her alone.) →

Yoshiharu Sunagawa
Class 2-1

HUH...? →

Haruhiko Takase
Class 2-1, Soccer Club

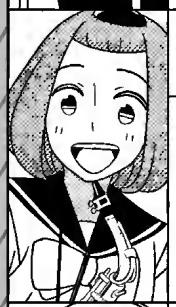
(My brother says he sees them a lot...)

Jun Furuya
Class 2-1, Class Rep, Broadcasting Club

Well, they're kinda unscientific, but who can say for sure?

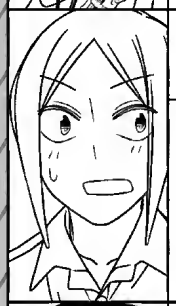
Ryoko Kaji
Class 3-B

DON'T SAY THAT! YOU'LL BUM ME OUT! →



Noriko Yoshinaga
Class 2-7, Brass Club

I'm surprised you can watch that stuff, Chii-chan... →



Yuuki Kaga
Class 1-6, Astronomy Club Vice Presid

(Should I chip in...?) →

Fuyumi Toda
Class 2-1

I WANNA SEE ONE.

Kotaro Takase
Middle School Second-Year

They're real.

Alice Himemiya
Class 2-7, Cooking Club

HMM... I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO TELL, SO...

Masafumi Akagi
Class 3-B, Student Council President

If I die first, I'll visit Ryoko's dreams.

Chizuru Takano
Class 2-7, Brass Club

I DON'T THINK SO, BUT I LIKE HORROR MOVIES.

Satsuki Sasahara
Class 3-2, Astronomy Club President

I'VE ACTUALLY SEEN A KAPPA WHEN I WAS LITTLE!

Hideki Yukawa
College Student, Astronomy Club Alumnus

ALIENS EXIST. I DUNNO ABOUT GHOSTS. KAPPA AREN'T REAL.

Kana Iijima
Class 2-4

I know, right? I don't think they exist, though. →

Ayaka Kamine
Class 2-4, Tea Ceremony Club

R-right! But I'm scared of ghosts, so hold my hand when we walk at night, okay? →

Kazuko Hosokawa
Class 2-4

THEY'RE REAL! →

Ayane Matsura
Class 2-4, Drama Club President

Which is it? →

Tomoe Ogi
Class 1-9, Drama Club

Doesn't saying stuff like that turn people off? →

Chiyo Kurihara
Class 2-1, Cooking Club

I like Halloween. →

Chiaki Uchimura
Class 2-4

I don't think they exist, but I can't help but look at spooky images on the Internet, y'know?

Takeru Goda
Class 2-4, Volleyball Club

Ghosts aren't real. Once you're dead, that's it, so let's live life to the fullest.

Shinichi Katori
Class 3-5, Drama Club President

God's real, right? I'm real, right? So, why wouldn't ghosts be real?

Urara Takahashi
Class 2-7, Drama Club

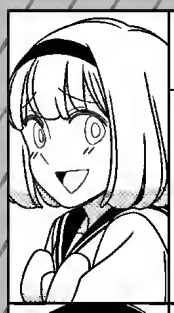
Nuh-huh!

Itsuki Kuroda
Class 1-9, Drama Club

THEY SAY THE MAJORITY OF GHOST FOOTAGE SHOWN ON TV IS FAKE.

Takao Yamane
Class 2-7

Monsters? You mean me?

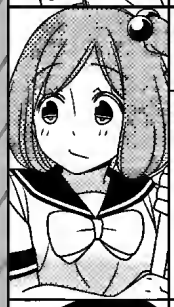


Patricia Caulfield
Class 2-4, Karate Club

SADAKO'S TOO SCARY!

Keisuke Tsuji
Class 2-4

↑ VHS dubbing is kinda hard in this day and age.



Yukari Nashimoto
Class 2-1, Cooking Club

N-NO! I DON'T WANT THEM TO BE REAL!

Kazuya Sonobe
Class 2-1, Student Council Secretary, Brass Club

↑ *Really? Wouldn't it be more fun if they're real?*

Nozomi Nakamura
Class 2-7, Drama Club

•••

Tomomichi Motoyama
Class 2-7, Karate Club

Hmm... I'm sure my ancestors are watching over me.

TSURE×DURE CHILDREN

Mai Tojo
Class 2-7

NO, NO, NO!

Kimihito Onizuka
Class 2-1

Huh? Err... Yo, yo! No such thing as poltergeists! That stuff's all just a bag of lies! →

Taro Sakamoto
Class 3-2 Homeroom Teacher, Social Studies Teacher

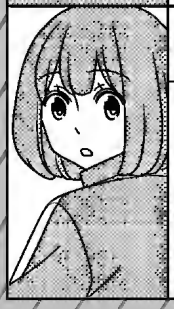
KOMATSU-SENSEI... →

Haruka Saejima
Class 3-5, Karate Club Captain

O-of course! →

Shinji Ubukata
Class 3-2, Light Music Club President

Sex Demon #1



Kyoko Sano
Class 3-8, Tea Ceremony Club

↑ Bring it on.

Taichi Ogiue
Class 2-7, Basketball Club

Why are you asking me like it's obvious? →

Sawa Yamada
Clas 2-1, Girls' Basketball Club

← Answer with a rap.

Takako Komatsu
Class 2-4 Homeroom Teacher, Gym Teacher

YOU THINK EVIL SPIRITS ARE KEEPING ME FROM GETTING MARRIED?

Chihiro Soma
Class 1-3, Karate Club

← You're not afraid of ghosts, right, Sempai?!

Satoshi Uehara
Class 3-2, Light Music Club Vice President

Sex Demon #2

Miss Wabisabi
Class ?-?, Light Music Club

← ↑ DO YOU ALL HAVE NO SHAME?

Eiji Maruo
Class 2-7, Basketball Club

← They do, right?

Sayaka Chiba
Class 2-7, Library Aide

THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND YOU, SENSEI... ↓

Yoichi Kirihara
Class 2-7 Homeroom Teacher, English Teacher

Ha...ha, ha. There you go again. You won't fool me. Nope...

Erika Shibasaki
Class 3-8, Tea Ceremony Club President

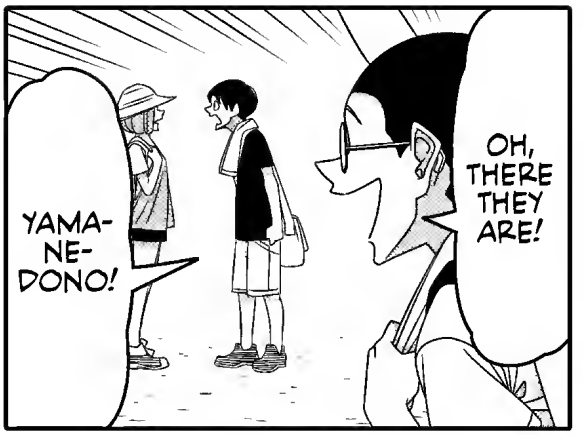
I WONDER... I AM FOND OF SCARY STORIES, THOUGH.

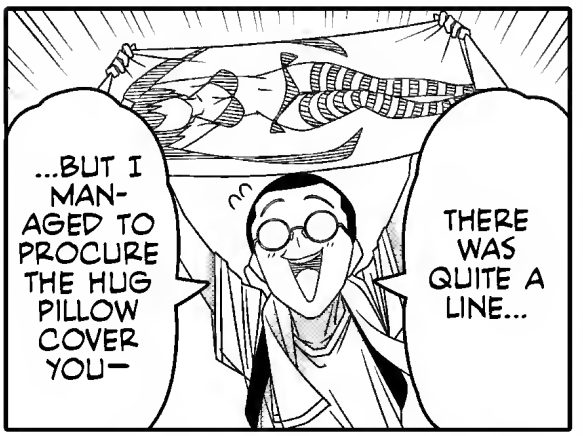
Junpei Hattori
Class 3-2, Light Music Club

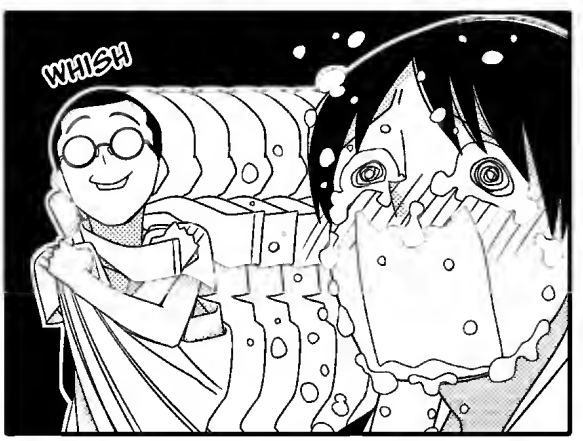
Sex Demon #3

Akimasa Noro
Class 2-1, Volleyball Club

GHOSTS? THEY'RE NOT REAL! BY THE WAY, WHO KEEPS TAPPING MY SHOULDER?







Afterword

Oops. I forgot to draw the takoyaki party...

Anyway, that was *Tsuredure Children* volume six. This volume took place in the middle of summer, and it just so happens that I am writing this afterword in July, the beginning of summer. While students are looking forward to summer break, I am experiencing it vicariously through my characters. That being said, I never had such an exhilarating summer vacation.

...I wonder what it's like to share summer break with your girlfriend.

This time, Furuya-kun and Minagawa-san, as well as Yamane-kun and Kurihara-san, have officially become couples. Though it probably feels more like, "It's about time!" I'm sure there will be trials and tribulations for them in the future, but for now, let them enjoy this fleeting happiness. The real problem is Motoyama-kun. I've been thinking it might be nice to let him find a sweetheart of his own, but part of me wants him to graduate single. What to do...

...Single works!

The next volume will contain part two of summer break. Going to festivals, eating takoyaki, doing homework, plenty of fun times to come!
To my editor, the publishers, the bookstore employees, and to the readers who continue to support me, thank you so much for making this possible. Until next time.

Toshiya Wakabayashi

Tsuredure Children 6

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